

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed Rollcall vote No. 433 on Thursday, September 7, 2006. This bill concerns H.R. 503, the "American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act". I was hosting a crime forum ("Crime in the Cities: America's Mayors Fight Back") as part of the 36th Annual Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference.

I would have voted in favor of the bill ("aye").

THE OLD SCOTLAND CHURCH OF CHRIST

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the Old Scotland Church of Christ near Jameson, Missouri. This church will be celebrating their sesquicentennial anniversary of service to the community on August 26th and 27th. Over these past 150 years, this church has been there to meet all the needs of its congregation.

As a staple of the community for all these years, the church has gone through growth and expansion with the Jameson community it serves. From humble beginnings, this church has been a stabilizing force for this community. Constructed on the corner of a three family plot, this congregation has been built on the involvement of the members.

The Old Scotland Church of Christ carries on the tradition of letting people interact with the other members of their congregation. Even as the growth of the congregation made their facilities seem small, people would still flow out into the adjacent cemetery, and the little children huddled around the speaker's podium just to attend and worship together.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the Old Scotland Church of Christ. The services that they have provided over these 150 years have been fundamental to the growth of this community. Let us use the Old Scotland Church of Christ as an example the power of people caring and helping one another can have.

RECOGNIZING JOHN TIPPETS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John Tippetts for his recent elec-

tion to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions. He is currently the President and CEO of American Airlines Federal Credit Union, located in the heart of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

John has been an advocate for federal credit unions for over 15 years, both at the State and local levels. He has previously served on the Filene Institute Advisory Council, the Federal Reserve's Thrift Institutions Advisory Council and Fannie Mae's National Advisory Council. In addition, John currently serves on the Aspen Institute's Advisory Board for the "Initiative on Financial Security," and on NAFCU's Legislative Committee.

Under John's guidance, the American Airlines Federal Credit Union has continued to grow, serving over 200,000 employees of the air transportation industry in 40 States. During his time of leadership, John has worked hard to ensure that the Credit Union continues to reflect its original principles: promoting thrift, cooperative ownership, and encouraging volunteer leadership within each community.

I know John will continue to serve his industry with dedication and leadership. Again, I wish John good luck in his new position as a member of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions Board of Directors.

HONORING THE SOUTH LAKE CHARLES ALL STAR LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the South Lake Charles All Stars, who recently competed in the 60th Little League World Series in Williamsport, PA.

After winning the Louisiana State tournament the team defeated Mississippi by a score of 1-0 in the U.S. South West regional tournament in Waco, TX, giving them a berth in the Little League World Series. This is the second year in a row that a team from Southwest Louisiana has represented the U.S. South West region as one of the top 8 teams in the Nation, and top 16 in the world.

These 14 young men, along with their coaches and parents, served as ambassadors of Louisiana as well as the United States. Through competition and daily interactions with teams from all over the United States and the world, the South Lake Charles All Stars represented Southwest Louisiana with dignity and sportsmanship both on and off the field.

Bill Castle, a volunteer host who served as a chaperone for the team said, "It took 30 minutes for me to suspect this was a special group of kids. They spent the rest of the week confirming that suspicion."

This team embodies the ideals of Little League Baseball—Character, Courage, and Loyalty. For this reason, and their athletic ac-

complishment, I congratulate the South Lake Charles All Stars, led by coaches Randall Von Rosenberg and Ben Corman, and Manager Josh Corman.

I ask my colleagues that this team's full roster be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. They are Ben Drouilhet, Matt Gallier, Tanner Hebert, Zack Cart, Taylor Butler, Gavin Cecchini, Timothy Cutrera, Hunter Ford, Paul Beglis, Nick Zaunbrecher, Tre Goodly, Jordan Karam, Gabe Von Rosenberg, and Zack Lacombe.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SETH JONES

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mr. Seth Jones of Lone Tree, Colorado. Mr. Jones has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our Nation's Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Mr. Jones has displayed academic excellence, community involvement, and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Seth Jones, and wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

HONORING JACK AND DONNA MORGAN OF NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friends Jack and Donna Morgan on the day they are honored as Grandparents of the Year by ParentsCAN of Napa, California. Their thoughtful, steady commitment to their own children, grandchildren, and the children of our community is a model of how we all should strive to be a positive influence in the lives of youth.

Jack and Donna's reflections on raising their own children and grandchildren attach the highest importance to personal care and affection. As they put it, "Our goal was to always, no matter the circumstances, insure that they felt loved." But they have also undertaken the larger task of trying to educate their children in the history of their family through trips, and instilling civic pride during trips to Washington, DC. It has been a pleasure to welcome their family back each time they visit the nation's capitol.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Mr. Speaker, Jack and Donna's contributions to the community of the Napa Valley extend far beyond the boundaries of their own family. Young and old alike have benefited from Jack's involvement as a trustee of the Napa Valley Opera House, and as Chairman of Friends of the Lincoln Theater he led the drive to fund a stunning renovation of this great community theater. Donna has participated in community organizations too numerous to list, but of particular note is her work to end the scourge of gang activity through her participation in drafting the Ten Year Master Plan to End Youth Violence in Napa County. Together and individually, these amazing parents have played an important role in improving the quality of life for Napa County.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the life-long participation of Jack and Donna Morgan in the lives of children their own children, and all of the children of the Napa Valley. They are outstanding role models for all parents, throughout our community.

CONGRATULATING KATHIE AND
JEFF HARNESS ON THEIR 25TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and recognize Kathie and Jeff Harness on their 25th wedding anniversary. Kathie and Jeff met in their home town of Grosse Pointe, Michigan, but not until after college. Kathie has dedicated herself to teaching and raising their family. Jeff works for Federal Screw Works in Michigan, and both he and Kathie enjoy spending time outdoors. The couple has two children, Ellen and Jeffrey.

I am honored to recognize this wonderful couple and wish for them many more years of love and happiness.

IN TRIBUTE TO RICHARD T.
GREENE, THE MAN WHO MADE A
BANK AN INSTITUTION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Richard T. Greene, an innovator and entrepreneur whose effective leadership helped revitalize and rebuild my Harlem community. Mr. Greene, the man who is recognized as building the largest African American financial institution, Carver Federal Savings, died at his home in Brooklyn last Thursday on August 3, 2006, of heart failure. Mr. Greene's innovative spirit and foresight expanded needed financial services which provided the means for investment within the Harlem community. Under Greene, Carver also showed its support for the people of Harlem through a commitment to helping those less fortunate by creating grants up to \$3,000 each year to 40 to 50 collegebound students in the Harlem community.

Mr. Greene was born on July 18, 1913, in Charleston, SC. At a time when very few African Americans were going to college, Mr. Greene graduated with a degree in business administration from Hampton University and did postgraduate work at New York University and the Wharton School of Banking and Finance. He also attained the rank of major in the U.S. Army during his World War II service, and was awarded an honorary doctorate from St. John's University.

Greene's most noted contribution came through the work he did as the president and director of Carver Federal Savings. Carver Federal Savings was established by business and church leaders in 1949, during a time of racial strife and segregation. It grew to become one of the areas leading financial institutions. Through his tenure, Mr. Greene expanded the bank's presence in Harlem by chiefly investing in one to four-family homes and in churches.

Greene participated in many business development organizations, such as the Harlem Business Alliance, which he co-founded; the Apollo Theater Foundation; and the Harlem Urban Development Corporation (HUDC), on whose boards he served. For several years, he worked with David Rockefeller in the New York City Partnership, Inc. His professional affiliations included service with the Federal Home Loan Bank of New York, Second District, from 1989–1992; serving thrift institutions in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; and membership in the Washington, D.C.-based American Savings and Loan League, Inc.

I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the obituary published in the New York Times on August 9, 2006, which provides an insight into Richard T. Greene's humanitarian efforts and accomplishments. He has truly left his mark on the Harlem community, and he will always be remembered for that. He was admired and loved by the community in which he served. What I hope people will remember from his life is that he always found a way to reach in and give back, touching the lives of many. As banks and financial institutions continue to grow and expand in New York and communities like Harlem we must reflect upon the lives and hard work of the individuals whose innovation made such progress possible.

[From The New York Times, Aug. 9, 2006]

RICHARD T. GREENE SR., 93, IS DEAD; MADE A
BANK AN INSTITUTION

(By Michael J. De La Merced)

Richard T. Greene Sr., who for 30 years was the president and a director of the Carver Federal Savings Bank, which he built into the country's largest African-American financial institution, died at his home in Brooklyn last Thursday. He was 93.

The cause was heart failure, his daughter, Cheryll, said.

Established by business and church leaders in Harlem in 1949, Carver grew to become one of the area's enduring institutions. Mr. Greene began his long career there in 1960, when Joseph Davis, the bank's co-founder and president, hired him as an executive assistant. Mr. Greene quickly rose through the ranks, becoming president in 1969.

During his tenure as Carver's president, Mr. Greene presided over a series of expansions, as it opened offices throughout the city and went public in 1994. Carver also suffered hardships, including the savings and loan crisis of the late 1980s, a fire in 1992 that destroyed its headquarters, and increasing

competition from larger institutions like Chase.

"He was perhaps the most critical factor in preventing Carver from getting swept away" in the savings and loan crisis, said Deborah C. Wright, Carver's current president. He avoided the high-risk loans that got other institutions into trouble, chiefly investing in one- to four-family homes and in churches, and kept loans at a relatively low level compared with deposits, she said.

Mr. Greene retired as president in 1995 and as chairman in 1997.

He was also active in many other Harlem institutions. Mr. Greene was a founder of the Harlem Business Alliance and worked with David Rockefeller in the New York City Partnership. He also served on the boards of the Apollo Theater Foundation and the Harlem Urban Development Corporation and established the Carver Scholarship Fund, which gives grants up to \$3,000 each year to 40 to 50 college-bound students in the bank's markets.

Mr. Greene was born on July 18, 1913, in Charleston, SC. He graduated with a degree in business administration from Hampton University in Hampton, VA, in 1938 and served as an Army officer during World War II. In addition to his daughter, Mr. Greene is survived by his wife, Virginia; a son, Richard Jr.; and three grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING JIM HUNT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jim Hunt of Maysville, Missouri. Mr. Hunt will soon be retiring as Director of the Small Business Development Center at Northwest Missouri State University.

As the Director of the Small Business Development Center, Mr. Hunt has provided guidance and valuable experiences to current and prospective small business owners throughout the northwest Missouri region. He has offered his experience and guidance to the enterprising citizens of my district for many years, as those entrepreneurs sought advice on the start-up, expansion, sale, and marketing of their business. His job is especially important, as the collection of small business owners are responsible for growth and sustainability of the entire region.

Before joining the University in 1999, Mr. Hunt was managing the sales and marketing efforts in northwest Missouri for a large agribusiness firm. He has been around the agriculture industry most of his life, starting with his family farming operation. Mr. Hunt also has a degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and taught vocational agriculture. These varied experiences have all made for a solid background in advising the small businesses and agriculture roots of northwest Missouri.

Mr. Hunt's efforts became very instrumental in the rebirth of the economy in northwest Missouri. He has worked tirelessly to increase the quality of education and participation of many of the small businesses in the northwest Missouri region. One of his lasting achievements will be the Northern Missouri Business Conference, a joint venture between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Northwest Missouri State University and many local businesses keeping open the dialogue and opportunities for continued growth in this region.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jim Hunt. His role in developing and assisting the small businesses in north-west Missouri will be difficult to replace. I commend his record of service and accomplishment to the entire region over the years and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress.

CONGRATULATING MR. CHUCK
EKLEBERRY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Chuck Ekleberry of Hickory Creek, Texas for publishing his first book of poetry titled "Out of the Knight". Mr. Ekleberry, an engineer by profession, started writing poetry 4 years ago and has since written over 200 poems.

With the help of his mother and friends, Mr. Ekleberry was able to assemble the collection of poems for the book. His ability to take a hobby and turn it into a work such as "Out of the Knight" shows his passion and dedication to literature.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Chuck Ekleberry on his first publication of poems. His contribution to the arts community of Denton County should serve as an inspiration to us all. I am honored to represent Mr. Ekleberry in Congress.

RECOGNIZING EMANCIPATION DAY
IN THE CARIBBEAN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to pay tribute to a significant national holiday recognized by the nations of the Caribbean that commemorates the emancipation of the slaves in the British Empire on August 1, 1834. This day celebrates arguably one of the most important events in the history of mankind to that date, preceding the end of slavery in the U.S. by some thirty years. It certainly was the beginning of the freedom of people of African descent in the British Caribbean.

Slavery has existed in various forms throughout most of recorded history. Because of its widespread nature, emancipation was not a single occurrence, but rather an action that took place at different times in different locations depending on the colonial power. Set aside as an anniversary marking the birth of liberty from legalized control, violence and enforced labor, the first day of August, Emancipation Day, serves as a reminder of how long and arduous the Caribbean's long walk to freedom actually was, encompassing the years leading up to the liberating act and the many years of colonialism which followed as a struggle to secure the promise of freedom.

The values and freedoms we exercise daily have come with a price. Freedom is never given freely. The emancipation of slaves in the Caribbean signified the emergence of a more civil and just society. However, there is unfini-

ished business in regards to the recognition and atonement given to this important period in history. We must continue to look for ways that adequately address the legacy and history of slavery and lead to an appreciation of the struggle for liberation.

It behooves all of us, jointly, as well as individually, to mark one of the most significant events in world history. I enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Carib News opinion editorial written by Dr. Harold Robertson, Trinidad and Tobago's Consul General in New York and thank him for providing a very detailed account of the path many Caribbean nations took to freedom. Although there still remains a lot to be done, by celebrating our past and our accomplishments, we are building a stronger foundation to build the future upon.

[From the NY Carib News, Aug. 2, 2006]

STATEMENT FOR EMANCIPATION CELEBRATIONS
2006

(By Dr. Harold Robertson)

The Trinidad and Tobago Consulate, in collaboration with TATIC (Trinidad & Tobago Independence Celebrations, Inc.) recently marked their Emancipation Day on Friday, July 28, with a celebration at the T & T Consulate in New York. The Consul General Dr. Harold Robertson was the keynote speaker who delivered the following address: "Today's event is the Consulate's annual celebration of what is arguably one of the most important events in the history of the British Caribbean and indeed in the Western Hemisphere—the Abolition of Slavery and the legal transformation of African slaves to free individuals.

Emancipation as a legal decision was not restricted to the British Caribbean since slavery was also not restricted only to that region. Slavery existed in virtually the entire western hemisphere (with the notable exception of what is now Canada), in Africa, Asia and the Middle East. Moreover, because of its widespread nature, abolition of the institution was not a single occurrence but rather, an action which took place at different times in different locations, dependent upon the colonial power.

What cannot be gainsaid is that in this hemisphere slavery was instituted for two basic reasons. Eric Williams in his seminal work *Capitalism and Slavery* postulates that the impetus was economic; and that the economic trigger was the decision by the metropolitan powers to develop the new world as a source of sugar. Sugar plantations required labor, cheap labor, without which the great development of the Caribbean in the 17th, 18th and early 19th Centuries would not have been possible. There is certainly much evidence to support this view; but one can take some issue with Williams' other assertion that the use of Africans as slave labor in the Caribbean and elsewhere "in no way implied the inferiority of the Negro".

Based on these two pillars, the institution of African slavery began with the importation of a dozen Africans to serve as personal slaves to wealthy Portuguese in 1441, and went on to subsist for some four centuries during which it is conservatively estimated that approximately 50,000,000 persons were transported from Africa to the new world.

By the late 18th Century, early 19th, slavery in the British Empire however was under sustained attack on two fronts. One was the economic—the plantation system had embarked upon a long slow decline, it was still profitable but the world was changing, with the industrial revolution exerting stronger influence. This was coupled with the growing sentiment of humanitarianism in Britain. Economic decline and humanitarian agita-

tion in and out of Parliament led to the great day, 1 August, 1834, when the abolition of slavery was encapsulated in the coming into effect of the Emancipation Act.

It is worthy of mention that Britain was not the first country or place to end slavery in the western hemisphere; that distinction belongs to the then Colony of Rhode Island which, caught up in the revolutionary fervor of the time, abolished slavery in 1774. Revolutionary France abolished slavery in 1789, only to have it re-instituted by Napoleon. Again in our hemisphere the next country to abolish slavery was Haiti which in defiance of France drafted its own Constitution in 1801, which abolished slavery in Saint Domingue for all time. In spite of efforts by Bonaparte's France to recapture St. Domingue the end result was failure and on 1 January, 1804 Dessaline's Government adopted its declaration of independence, changed the name of the country to Haiti and confirmed Toussaint's ending of slavery. Simon Bolivar's campaigns led to the end of slavery in Spain's mainland colonies in South America in the early 19th Century.

These were the precedents to the Emancipation of Slaves in the British Colonies—but what in practical terms did the end of slavery mean for the British Caribbean. The first and most obvious effect was the transformation of 540,559 African Slaves from chattel slavery to legal freedom. For those of us familiar with the economic and demographic reality of the Caribbean today, the picture on 1 August, 1834, doubtless makes for interesting observation. The number of slaves set free in the individual British territories reveals the following: Jamaica—255,290; British Guyana (now Guyana)—69,579; Barbados—66,638; Antigua—23,350; Grenada—19,009; St. Vincent—18,114; Trinidad—17,539; St. Kitts—15,667; Dominica—11,664; St. Lucia—10,328; Tobago—9,078; Bahamas—7,734; Nevis—7,225; Montserrat—5,026; British V.I.—4,318.

The second critical factor was the decision of the British Parliament not to compensate the former slaves for their oppression, humiliation and degradation but rather to pay the slave-owners for the loss of their property. Parliament in London allocated 20,000,000 (over 1 billion dollars in today's currency) for that purpose.

The British abolition was followed by similar actions among European powers—France ended slavery in 1848 following another period of revolutionary activity; Sweden in 1846, Holland in 1863. Slavery in the remaining Spanish Caribbean was ended not from Madrid but within the colonies themselves, with Puerto Rico ending slavery in 1873 and Cuba in 1880. The last major regional country to emancipate its slaves was Brazil which ended the institution in 1888.

All of this brings us to the USA. Emancipation did not come to the United States until 1 December, 1865, when Congress ratified the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. It was that amendment, eight months after Lincoln's death which abolished slavery in the United States.

The foregoing, in snapshot, provides a picture of the events which we celebrate today. For us in the Caribbean, emancipation and its repercussions served to trigger the events leading to the emergence of modern society. In those islands and colonies where land was available, the freed slaves generally refused to work for their former owners. They abandoned the plantations in favor either of forming their own free villages or engaging in other activity.

Faced with a labor crisis, Caribbean plantation owners reacted in the only way they

knew—importation of more labor. Initial efforts were concentrated on Chinese and Portuguese workers, leading to thriving communities of these ethnicities in countries like Jamaica, Trinidad and Guyana. Indeed, this year the Chinese Community will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of their arrival into Trinidad and already in some quarters the call has gone out for official recognition of a Chinese arrival day.

The greatest influx of new labor in the post emancipation period, however, came from India and interestingly virtually the same race-based philosophy that was used to justify the enslavement of Africans featured in the importation of Indians. Indians had been introduced to Mauritius and Fiji and in early discourse over the suitability of the Indian for labor in the Caribbean, officials of the East India Company described the Indians as being “more akin to the monkey than the man. They have no religion, no education and in their present state no want beyond eating, drinking and sleeping”

The Indians were not to be seen as slaves—Indian labor was classified as indentured-ship—they were to work for specific periods of time at the end of which they exercised the choice of either returning to India or accepting a tract of state land to remain as freemen in the Caribbean. As the time rolled by the option of returning to India was gradually made more and more difficult. Thus, it was that beginning in 1838 and extending to the end of the First World War in 1918 over 1,000,000 Indians were introduced into the Caribbean to work on the sugar plantations. Today, the largest Indian societies in the Caribbean are to be found in Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago, but the immigration of Indians was widespread throughout the Caribbean; 238,000 went to Guyana; 145,000 were sent to Trinidad; 39,000 to Guadeloupe; 34,000 to Suriname; 21,500 to Jamaica; smaller numbers went to Martinique, Grenada, St. Lucia and St. Vincent.

The repercussions of these events are of course still being felt today. In the Caribbean, emancipation still remains a work in progress, since it has taken on aspects which extend beyond the mere end of slavery. Many Caribbean societies face the struggle of blending different cultures and ethnicities into a coherent social whole. Of course, the infusion of different peoples has led to the development of a pluralistic culture, perhaps best exemplified in Trinidad and Tobago where calypso and soca exist side by side with chutney, the steelpan with the tassa and the cuisine ranges from pastelles and arepas to sancoche and peleau, provisions and oil down, bake and shark and buljol, roti and phouloorie, fried rice and chow mein. It is also reflected in the general antipathy of blacks to agricultural endeavor and the stereotype of the Chinese laundry or the Portuguese rum shop. It is reflected in sport, as in politics as we continue to strive to develop the society which we all desire.

The Jamaican icon Bob Marley has exhorted us to emancipate ourselves from mental slavery and nowhere is this exhortation more apposite than in the incongruous situation where politically independent countries of the modern Caribbean continue to maintain the British Privy Council as their final arbiter in jurisprudential matters. Emancipation will not be fully achieved until that is corrected.

Whether in the Caribbean or in America the abolition of slavery unleashed the compendium of forces out of which modern society emerged. Still however, there is unfinished business, not least of which is the increasing clamor for the righting of a historical wrong—the payment of reparations to the heirs of those who endured this most heinous institution. So far, the concept of rep-

arations is a notion which has engaged the attention only of activists and academics. That is changing; others are becoming conscious of the need for atonement. For example, at its 75th General Convention held this past June, the Episcopal Church of the United States adopted a Resolution entitled “Slavery and Racial Reconciliation”. The Resolution acknowledged the Church’s participation in the fundamental betrayal of humanity represented by slavery, observed that the repercussions of slavery continue to plague our life and culture and called upon Congress and the American people to initiate a study and dialogue about the history and legacy of slavery and of methodologies for the provision of monetary and non-monetary reparations to the descendants of the victims of slavery.

There is much that still remains to be done. Only when there is universal understanding of and reparations for the blight of slavery will we be able to speak of complete emancipation. For now, it behoves all of us, jointly as well as individually, to mark one of the most significant events in our history and indeed in world history; and to rededicate ourselves to working for its total achievement. Trinidad and Tobago has done its part; in 1985, Trinidad and Tobago was the first country to declare Emancipation Day as a national holiday. Other Caribbean countries have followed.

HONORING MR. LLOYD A. KING

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, President John F. Kennedy once said that the greatness of poets “depends upon the courage with which they face the challenges of life.” Today, I rise to recognize one such poet and American hero.

Lloyd A. King, a native of New York State, was drafted to serve in the U.S. Army in Vietnam in 1967. As a non-commissioned officer with the 101st Airborne Division in 1968 and 1969, he began writing about his emotions and experiences through poetry. In his poems Mr. King described the sights and sounds that he couldn’t tell his family back home.

Mr. King eventually was awarded the Silver Star, the Soldier’s Medal, the Bronze Star, two Purple Hearts, two Air Medals, and nearly a dozen other awards including the highest individual medal awarded by the Republic of South Vietnam, the RVN Gallantry Cross with Gold Star.

Thirty years later, on July 28, 1998, Mr. King began writing again about his experiences in Vietnam, in hopes that he could express his personal feelings and the events that he had not previously been able to share.

Currently a resident of Lafayette, Louisiana, Mr. King has been honored with the Military Writers Society of America 2006 Gold Medal Award for “Best Book of Poetry” for his “From ‘Nam with Love.” Mr. King now serves as the commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, William McKenzie Chapter #504, Lafayette, Louisiana, he is also a lifetime member of Vietnam Veterans of America, Acadiana Chapter #141.

As an artist, author, poet and soldier, I ask my colleagues to honor Mr. Lloyd A. King, American hero, for his accomplishments.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TORI LANGE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Tori Lange of Littleton, Colorado. Ms. Lange has been accepted to the People to People World Leadership Forum here in our nation’s Capitol. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the People to People program founded by President Eisenhower in 1956.

Ms. Lange has displayed academic excellence, community involvement and leadership potential. All students chosen for the program have been identified and nominated by educators.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to join in paying tribute to Tori Lange, and wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DYLAN LEVALLEY OF MCKINLEYVILLE, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the accomplishments of Dylan LeValley of McKinleyville, California. With his fellow rowers on the James Robert Hanssen, Dylan completed a historic feat in winning the 2006 Ocean Fours Rowing Race across the Atlantic Ocean. Dylan LeValley was raised in the First Congressional District of California and is the son of my constituents, Linda Doerflinger and Ron LeValley.

Mr. LeValley, along with 3 fellow rowers from the University of Puget Sound, set out on June 10th to row across the Atlantic Ocean from New York City to Falmouth, England. They performed this remarkable feat in a small, open-topped boat without the aid of any motorized power, and with only the supplies they could carry inside the boat. In 68 days, these young men traveled approximately 3,800 miles while being knocked far off their course by storms, currents, and unusually strong winds. In doing so, they became the first Americans to row from the United States to the United Kingdom, and the first team to ever row from mainland to mainland without pausing.

Mr. Speaker, this accomplishment is extremely impressive, but is made more meaningful because it was done in the name of charity. Drawing inspiration from the death of one team member’s father to asthma, the team named their boat, the James Robert Hanssen, in his honor and set out to raise \$300,000 for the American Lung Association. Such an ambitious goal reminds us that this endeavor had significance for the team members beyond the physical challenge. A remarkable achievement, their journey will be remembered both for the records they set and for their personal contribution to medical charity.

HONORING SENATOR GROVER
FORD BOWERS, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a true friend to our Nation and the State of South Carolina. Friday, July 7, 2006, saw the sad passing of Grover Ford Bowers, Jr. Senator Bowers was born in Luray, South Carolina, in Hampton County on November 20, 1919. He was a son of the late Grover Ford Bowers, Sr. and Corinne Fitts Bowers. He graduated from Estill High School and the University of South Carolina. He was a member of Luray Christian Church where he served as finance chairman. He was also a member of Estill Masonic Lodge and the Society of 1824. Senator Bowers was a United States Marine Corps Veteran of World War II, having served on the Island of Tinian in the 18th Anti-Aircraft Artillery. He was honorably discharged with the rank of Captain. He then became the co-founder of Harper & Bowers Inc. in 1947. After retirement in 1976, he remained actively involved in both agri-business and politics. Senator Bowers served in the South Carolina Senate from 1962–1966 and was the last Senator from Hampton County. He served as a member of the Board of Visitors of Clemson University and The Medical University of South Carolina, as well as various State Commissions including: State Ethics Commission, State ASCS Commission, S.C. Highway Commission, State Transportation Commission and State Forestry Commission. In 1978 Senator Bowers was awarded the Order of the Palmetto by Governor James B. Edwards.

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Macie Tison Bowers, his 3 children, Martha B. Simons and her husband, Dr. Paul K. Simons; Grover F. Bowers III and his wife, Derbiana Peeples Bowers; William T. Bowers and his wife, Julia Roman Bowers. His 7 grandchildren include Caroline S. Chase and husband, Samuel Chase III, Paul K. Simons Jr., Grover F. Bowers IV, Hunter T. Bowers, Margaret E. Bowers, William T. Bowers and Charles R. Bowers. Senator Bowers also has one great grandson, Samuel M. Chase IV. He was preceded in death by two brothers, DeTreville F. Bowers and Corrin F. Bowers.

He is also survived by his sister-in-law, Ms. Mary Eleanor Bowers of Estill, South Carolina. Ms. Bowers served as the Estill Office Special Assistant of the Second Congressional District until her retirement. Before that she served on the staff of the late Congressman Floyd Spence and was initially added to service by Congressman Arthur Ravenel.

THE DEFINITION OF TYRANNY;
LOOK NO FURTHER THAN THE
BUSH ADMINISTRATION AND THE
REPUBLICAN ENABLERS IN CON-
GRESS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, if Franz Kafka were writing his famous novel *The Trial* today,

he might find his inspiration in what is happening in America. In *The Trial* a man named Josef K awakens one morning and, for reasons never revealed, is arrested and subjected to the rigors of a bizarre judicial process for an unspecified crime. The agents who arrest him never tell him under what or whose authority he is being arrested. He is ultimately executed never knowing what he has done.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to enter into the RECORD a column by Bob Herbert entitled “The Definition of Tyranny” which appeared in the July 17, 2006 edition of *The New York Times*. The subject of Mr. Herbert’s article is the Bush Administration’s response to the Supreme Court’s holding in *Hamdan vs. Rumsfeld* that the military tribunals in use at Guantánamo Bay were illegal. The President was not authorized by Congress, nor did he have the power under Title II of the Constitution, to make law for the tribunals or for the treatment of prisoners at Guantánamo Bay even though the country was engaged, he argued, in a “war on terror.” The Court also faulted the President’s failure to apply Article III of the Geneva Conventions in its treatment of prisoners at Guantánamo Bay.

In response, the President has requested that the Congress make legal what the Court found illegal. This response brought to my mind the situation in which Josef K found himself in *The Trial*. I enter this article by Mr. Herbert for the edification of my colleagues in the House of Representatives.

[From the *New York Times*, July 17, 2006]

THE DEFINITION OF TYRANNY

(By Bob Herbert)

Congress is dithering and the American public doesn’t even seem particularly concerned as the administration of George W. Bush systematically trashes such fundamental American values as justice, due process, respect for human rights and submission to the rule of law.

In the kangaroo courts that the administration concocted to try detainees at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, a defendant could be prevented from seeing the evidence against him, would not have the right to attend his own trial and would not have the right to appeal the sentence to a civilian court.

That’s slapstick justice, a process worthy of the Marx Brothers.

“You have been accused of being a terrorist.”

“Where is the evidence?”

“We can’t show it to you.”

“That’s ridiculous.”

“So is this court. We find you guilty. Take him away.”

The Supreme Court now says, in a vote that was closer than it should have been, that this sort of madness cannot be permitted. In its recent decision striking down the tribunals for terror suspects at Guantánamo, the court said of the defendant, Salim Ahmed Hamdan: “He will be, and indeed already has been, excluded from his own trial.”

The court said, in effect, that this is not the American way, that ours is not a Marx Brothers republic. Not yet, anyway. (It most likely will be if Mr. Bush gets to appoint one or two more justices to the court.)

The Bush-Cheney regime believes it can do whatever outlandish things it wants, including torturing people and keeping them incarcerated for life without even the semblance of due process. And it’s not giving up. The administration now wants Congress to authorize what the Supreme Court has plainly said was wrong. White House lawyers, in a

torturous (pun intended) interpretation of the court’s ruling, seem to be arguing that the kangaroo courts, otherwise known as military commissions, will be quite all right if only Congress will say so.

They’re not all right. They’re an abomination (like the secret C.I.A. prisons and the practice of extraordinary rendition) that spits in the face of the idea that the United States is a great and civilized nation.

“Can you imagine if the Hamdan decision, among others, had gone the other way?” said Michael Ratner, president of the Center for Constitutional Rights, which has been waging an extraordinary fight to secure basic legal protections for prisoners at Guantánamo. “I mean we’d be looking at a dark nightmare.”

The court’s decision brought into sharp relief the importance of one of the most fundamental aspects of American government, the separation of powers. Checks and balances. The judicial branch put a halt—a check—on a gruesomely illegal practice by the executive.

Mr. Bush has tried to scrap the very idea of checks and balances. The Republican-controlled Congress has, for the most part, rolled over like trained seals for the president. And Mr. Bush is trying mightily to pack the courts with right-wingers who will do the same. Under those circumstances, his will becomes law.

Justice John Paul Stevens, who wrote the majority opinion in the Hamdan case, referred to a seminal quote from James Madison. The entire quote is as follows: “The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few or many, and whether hereditary, self-appointed or elective, may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny.”

As the center noted in a recent report, “The U.S. government has employed every possible tactic to evade judicial review of its detention and interrogation practices in the ‘war on terror,’ including allegations that U.S. personnel subject prisoners to torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment.”

There is every reason to be alarmed about the wretched road that Bush, Cheney et al. are speeding along. It is as if they were following a route deliberately designed to undermine a great nation.

A lot of Americans are like spoiled rich kids who take their wealth for granted. Too many of us have forgotten—or never learned—the real value of the great American ideals. Too many are standing silently by as Mr. Bush and his cronies engage in the kind of tyrannical and uncivilized behavior that has brought so much misery—and ultimately ruin—to previous societies.

BOEHRINGER INGELHEIM
VETMEDICA, INC.

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. in St. Joseph, Missouri as it celebrates its 25 year anniversary. This company is a subsidiary of Boehringer Ingelheim Corporation, one of the world’s 20 leading pharmaceutical companies. Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.’s involvement has impacted all areas of the St. Joseph, Missouri community for the past 25 years.

As a staple of the community, the company continues to grow and give back to the people of Missouri. Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc., or BIVI, employs over 500 people in the St. Joseph and Elwood area of Missouri. The 100 employees who have been with BIVI since the first day 25 years ago are evidence of BIVI's worker-friendly environment.

In conjunction with its commitment to the people of BIVI, the organization continues to have a positive impact on the development in this region as an active member of the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce. Not only is BIVI a committed leader in the United Way effort for St. Joseph, it also donates its time and money to the local schools and universities, a further investment in the future of this region.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. Its investment in the St. Joseph area community is exceptional. Let us use Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc. as an example of the influence investing and re-investing can have on a broader community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE '91 TEXAS ELITE SOFTBALL CLUB

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the superior performance of the '91 Texas Elite Fast Pitch softball club on their 5th place finish in the National Championship on August 6th, 2006.

The team placed 5th after competing against 114 fast pitch softball teams from around the Nation. During the course of the tournament the ladies had a record of 9 and 2 and finished the tournament as the highest ranked Texas team.

Their success was the combined effort of many extremely talented athletes, and would not have been possible if it was not for the incredible sense of teamwork put forth by all athletes.

I extend my sincere congratulations to coaches Slade Maloney and Stephanie Tamayo, as well as Ms. Taylor Petrick, Ms. Rayne House, Ms. Natalie Nimmo, Ms. Sara Draheim, Ms. Valerie Howell, Ms. Taylor Hoagland, Ms. Lindsay Zaobnjik, Ms. Danika Miller, Ms. Taylor Sells, Ms. Kim Spivey, and Ms. Magean De La Torre, the members of the '91 Texas Elite softball club.

TERROR ALERT: LOSS OF CREDIBILITY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Richard Cohen for his recent article published in the Washington Post entitled "Terror Alert: Severe Risk of Hype" in which he calls into question the Bush administration's credibility when it comes to terrorism.

President Bush, Vice President CHENEY and other top administration officials asserted before the U.S. invasion that Iraq was reconsti-

tuting its nuclear weapons program, had chemical and biological weapons and maintained links to al Qaeda affiliates to whom it might give such weapons to use against the United States. Unfortunately, research and intelligence reports have proven otherwise. Instead of being adept at making sound policy, the current administration appears to be skilled in the art form of deception and dishonesty.

Currently, Attorney General Alberto Gonzales is once again putting the American people on "Terror Alert" without having substantial information. Just last week Mr. Gonzales announced the arrest of seven terrorists. Have we not learned from our past mistakes? The announcement of the arrests of these alleged terrorists are part of a sad trend within the Bush administration to exaggerate the facts, labeling anyone thought to be acting suspiciously or fitting a racial stereotype an al-Qaeda type terrorist. What we see is the Bush Administration's need to once again hype certain issues to gain not only America's trust, but to use that to bolster its declining credibility.

This is a serious matter for a variety of reasons. First, if Americans are being asked to surrender a measure of privacy and civil liberties, they deserve to have an administration that will use data not to deceive but to protect. Also, the arrest of the seven alleged terrorists should not be used as evidence of the administration's success in protecting the Nation if the facts are not clear that a real threat is involved. The facts as revealed in press reports to date, as Richard Cohen asserts are suspiciously short of providing a reasonable case that these misguided youth were in any position to pose a real threat to accomplish their alleged goals. There is some likelihood in fact, that it was the FBI's sting operation that gave these would be perpetrators any credibility at all, and that their planning was led by the FBI operative who posed as a terrorist to entrap the inept plotters.

I enter into the RECORD the Washington Post column by Mr. Richard Cohen and commend him for presenting this issue regarding the Bush administration's penchant to hype Terror Alerts. In order to regain the American people's confidence the Bush administration should not use or target events to achieve some political gain. I believe the War on Terror can and will be won when leaders start leading responsibly, placing the interest of the people first and their political objectives second.

[From washingtonpost.com, June 27, 2006]

TERROR ALERT: SEVERE RISK OF HYPE

(By Richard Cohen)

It is the sheerest luck, I know, that Attorney General Alberto Gonzales looks (to me) a bit like Jerry Mahoney, because he fulfills the same function for the Bush administration that the dummy did for the ventriloquist Paul Winchell. At risk to his reputation and the mocking he must get when he comes home at night, Gonzales will call virtually anyone an al-Qaeda-type terrorist. He did that last week in announcing the arrest of seven inferred (it's the strongest word I can use) terrorists. I thought I saw Dick Cheney moving his lips.

The seven were indicted on charges that they wanted to blow up the Sears Tower in Chicago and the FBI bureau in Miami. The arrests came in the nick of time, since all that prevented mass murder, mayhem and an

incessant crawl at the bottom of our TV screens was the lack of explosives, weapons or vehicles. The alleged conspirators did have boots, which were supplied by an FBI informant. Maybe the devil does wear Prada.

Naturally, cable news was all over the story since it provided pictures. These included shots of the Sears Tower, the FBI bureau, the seven alleged terrorists and, of course, Gonzales dutifully playing his assigned role of the dummy. He noted that the suspects wanted to wage a "full ground war" against the United States and "kill all the devils" they could—this despite a clear lack of materiel and sidewalk-level IQs. Still, as Gonzales pointed out, if "left unchecked, these homegrown terrorists may prove to be as dangerous as groups like al-Qaeda." A presidential medal for the man, please.

It is not now and never has been my intention to belittle terrorism. Clearly, if what the government alleges turns out to be the truth—look, that sometimes happens—then these guys deserve punishment. But theirs was such a preposterous, crackpot plot that the only reason it rose to the level of a televised news conference by the nation's chief law enforcement officer was the Bush administration's compulsive need to hype everything. For this, Gonzales, like a good Boy Scout, is always prepared.

Does it matter? Yes, it does. It matters because the Bush administration has already lost almost all credibility when it comes to terrorism. It said there were weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and there were none. It said al-Qaeda and Iraq were in cahoots and that was not the case. It has so exaggerated its domestic success in arresting or convicting terrorists that it simply cannot be believed on that score. About a year ago, for instance, President Bush (with Gonzales at his side) asserted that "federal terrorism investigations have resulted in charges against more than 400 suspects, and more than half of those charged have been convicted." The Post looked into that and found that the total number of (broadly defined) "terrorism" convictions was 39.

This compulsion to exaggerate and lie is so much a part of the Bush administration's DNA that it persists even though it has become counterproductive. For instance, the arrest of the seven suspects in Miami essentially coincided with the revelation by the New York Times that the government has "gained access to financial records from a vast international database and examined banking transactions involving thousands of Americans." Almost instantly, the administration did two things: It confirmed the story and complained about it. The Times account only helped terrorists, Cheney said.

Is he right? I wonder. This is a serious matter. After all, Americans are being asked to surrender a measure of privacy and civil liberties in the fight against terrorism—essentially the argument Cheney has been making. I for one am willing to make some compromises, but I feel downright foolish doing so if the fruit of the enterprise turns out to be seven hapless idiots who would blow up the Sears Tower, if only they could get to Chicago.

Cheney in particular has zero credibility, but his administration colleagues are not far behind. Prominent among them, of course, is the attorney general, a man so adept at crying wolf and mouthing the administration's line that he simply cannot be believed any more.

The Sears Tower. The Miami bureau of the FBI. Please. Someone, put the dummy back in his box.

TRIBUTE TO COL MICHAEL W.
DEYOUNG, UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. TOM OSBORNE

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a great American patriot, COL Mike DeYoung, who is retiring with over 27 years of honorable service in the United States Army.

Colonel DeYoung was born in Lincoln, Nebraska. Then, as he says, he was given not only the normal baby inoculations of vitamin B, but also vitamin C for "Cornhusker" which began a lifelong passion for Nebraska football. He is well known to many Members of Congress in that for the last 4 years he has served as the chief of the House Liaison Division for the Army. In that time, many of us have had the privilege of working with Colonel DeYoung on a wide variety of legislative initiatives, programs and congressional travel. I can personally attest to his professionalism as it was Mike who escorted the delegations that I led to Iraq and other stops in the Middle East in the spring of 2005 and again in December last year. Thus, it is my distinct honor to recognize his many accomplishments over the course of a distinguished career and I commend his superb service to the United States Army and this great Nation.

Colonel De Young is an Army "brat" as they say, the son of retired COL Dee De Young and Anne DeYoung. He was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Defense Artillery after graduating from the College of William and Mary. He began his military career with the 4th Infantry Division, serving as a platoon leader and later battery executive officer in the 4th Battalion, 71st Air Defense Artillery. Over the course of the next two decades, Colonel DeYoung served in a variety of command and staff assignments, with increasing levels of responsibility. Highlights during this period include commanding companies both here in the United States and in Europe at the height of the cold war, chief of the Joint Intelligence Center's Crisis Action Support Center in the Pacific region and then again commanding a battalion in Germany.

There are few officers who could even begin to rival Colonel DeYoung's expertise and experience in working with the United States Congress. He was selected as an American Political Science Association Foreign Affairs Fellow at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies and then served as a fellow in the office of former Senator Richard Bryan of Nevada, with subsequent assignments in the legislation liaison arena working for the Secretary of the Army and as a military assistant for the Secretary of Defense. Colonel DeYoung has played a significant role shaping the greatest Army on the planet. Upon graduating from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, Mike expanded his legislative résumé serving as the chief of the Congressional Inquiries Division for the Army and then finally, as was stated previously, the chief of Army Liaison to the House of Representatives.

While Colonel DeYoung's duty titles and assignments sound impressive, what is far more impressive and more relevant is the character of this selfless soldier and the thousands of young men and women whose lives have

been enriched by crossing paths with Mike DeYoung. This is his greatest legacy. Years after Colonel DeYoung is only a memory to the United States Army, the values that he imparted on those that he has served with will live on. These same values are what make our Army the most formidable military force on earth—loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Mr. Speaker, as this great American patriot moves on, and as this invaluable friend of the House of Representatives begins the next chapter in his life, I know I speak for all the Members of the House, in thanking Colonel DeYoung for his many years of service to our Nation and extend my best wishes to him, his wife Deborah and their wonderful children Alex and Denia.

TRIBUTE TO THE OMAHA FEDERATION OF ADVERTISING ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, the Omaha Federation of Advertising will be celebrating their 100th anniversary at a centennial gala event on November 18, 2006 with the induction of their first Legends of Advertising Hall of Fame honorees, a salute to the top 100 local ad campaigns and a theatrical retrospect of the last 100 years.

Founded in 1906, the Omaha Federation of Advertising, OFA, is considered the unifying voice of advertising in the Omaha/Council Bluffs metropolitan area. The professional association is made up of and represents corporate advertising, agencies, marketing, media, printing, suppliers, academia and other advertising and public relations professionals. As advocates for the rights of advertisers, they educate policy makers, the media and the general public on the value advertising brings to the well-being of our community and the economy.

The OFA hosts a multitude of events and activities throughout the year that serve the public and attract a wide audience. A small example of such activities include: a national award-winning program to introduce college students to advertising professionals, called Meet the Pros; an annual awards event recognizing creative excellence, called the American Advertising Awards; a scholarship program in which thousands of dollars are awarded to students attending accredited universities and/or advertising/design trade schools; and a public service program committed to the goal of helping deserving non-profit groups to achieve their marketing/communication goals.

I'd like to congratulate the OFA on their 100th anniversary and wish them the best in the next century.

WELCOME TO PRESIDENT ROH
MOO-HYUN OF THE REPUBLIC OF
KOREA

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, President Roh Moo-hyun of the Republic of Korea is scheduled to visit the United States from September 12 to 15, 2006, for a summit meeting with President George W. Bush. After meetings in Washington with President Bush and Members of the congressional leadership, President Roh will travel to San Francisco.

Mr. Speaker, recently I had the privilege of visiting South Korea and meeting with President Roh and other Korean officials, as well as with U.S. soldiers and members of the diplomatic community. The Korean people treated us with warmth and hospitality, for which I am deeply grateful.

While in South Korea, I had an opportunity to lay a wreath in tribute to GEN Douglas MacArthur at his statue at Incheon harbor. The statue was erected by the citizens of the City of Incheon to commemorate the General's vital leadership during the Korean war, including his implementation of the daring landing at Incheon in the darkest days of the Korean War. In his farewell address before this Congress in 1951, General MacArthur said: "Of the nations of the world, Korea alone, up to now, is the sole one which has risked its all against communism. The magnificence of the courage and fortitude of the Korean people defies description. They have chosen to risk death rather than slavery."

Korea and the United States have been allies and friends for more than half a century. Our economic ties are strong. With a per capita income of \$14,162, South Korea is the world's 11th-largest economy and the 7th largest trading partner of the United States, with a trade volume amounting to over \$72 billion each year. The United States and South Korea are currently engaged in negotiations that will lead to a U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement, which will further solidify and expand U.S.-Korean economic ties.

With a population of well over one million, the Korean-American community has become, in the past century, a vital and important part of the American mosaic. The greater Los Angeles area, with its vibrant Korean-American community, is now one of the world's centers of Korean culture. But Korean-Americans are not only found in California. From Hawaii, east to New York, and from Alaska down to Florida, Korean-Americans are making a critical contribution to the United States in such diverse fields as medicine, education, science, engineering, martial arts, small business enterprises, entrepreneurship, music and the fine arts. America has been enriched by the Korean-American community's many contributions, and its existence has bonded us even closer to the Korean peninsula across the Pacific.

It should come as no surprise, then, that the United States is also a popular destination for travelers from South Korea, whether they are coming here to visit their family members who have become part of the American community, attending U.S. colleges and universities, or meeting with business colleagues in the pursuit of greater trade and investment.

The U.S. consular section at our embassy in Seoul is the busiest non-immigrant visa issuing post in the world, processing between 1,800 and 2,000 visa applications each day. It is clear that South Koreans want to visit the United States, and they have good reasons for doing so.

There are currently efforts underway to bring South Korea under the umbrella of the U.S. Visa Waiver Program, which already applies to 27 other countries, including the United Kingdom, France, Canada, and Japan. This program, established in 1986 with the objective of promoting better relations with U.S. allies, also eliminates unnecessary barriers to travel, stimulates the tourism industry, and permits the U.S. Department of State to focus consular resources in other areas.

The South Korean Government has made it clear that it intends to meet all of the statutory and regulatory requirements of the Visa Waiver Program. Seoul is working with the Departments of Homeland Security, Justice, and State in a diligent fashion to make sure that relevant South Korean governmental agencies have implemented the most up-to-date passport controls, using biometric and other technologies to prevent fraud and abuse. Mr. Speaker, I am almost certain that the Republic of Korea's entry into the Visa Waiver Program will be one of the topics discussed by President Roh and President Bush during their summit meeting this month.

There are, of course, other issues that certainly will be discussed at the White House by President Bush and President Roh, including the free trade negotiations, North Korean nuclear weapons development, and South Korea's active participation in the global war on terrorism and its contributions to the war effort in Iraq. The United States and South Korea have enjoyed a long and productive alliance, which, based on blood ties forged in the Korean war, will deepen into the indefinite future.

The frequent meetings of U.S. and Korean leaders are a clear manifestation of the close relationship shared by our two countries. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to welcome the president of the Republic of Korea, Roh Moo-hyun, to the United States as he visits Washington, DC, and the golden State of California. I invite all Members of the House to join me in offering President Roh our best wishes and hospitality as he visits our Nation's Capital.

CONGRATULATING EAGLEPICHER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize EaglePicher, an advanced technology company that was founded in 1843. Today, EaglePicher provides innovative products for a wide range of industries and employs approximately 3,900 people worldwide.

I would like to congratulate EaglePicher on the achievement of their nickel hydrogen batteries that reached one billion cell hours of successful flight time in space on September 9, 2006. EaglePicher Technologies, which makes these batteries is headquartered in Joplin, Missouri and has a long history of being one of Joplin's leading employers.

I am honored to congratulate the current President of EaglePicher Corporation, David Treadwell and the President of EaglePicher Technologies, Steve Westfall and all of the employees of EaglePicher on this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO KENNETH AND LINDA STEIGERS

HON. C. L. "BUTCH" OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing to the actions of Kenneth and Linda Steigers of Juliaetta, Idaho.

Nine years before the Steigers purchased a section of land in Clearwater County, Idaho, a flood tore through the area. It destroyed many large cottonwood trees and other vegetation in a riparian zone of Lolo Creek which runs through their property. Eventually, grass grew back near the banks of the creek, which attracted grazing cattle. At that time the Bureau of Land Management raised concerns that the cattle may be adversely affecting the water quality of the creek and the salmon spawning beds in the area.

The Steigers, through support from the Conservation Reserve Program, CRP, have worked diligently to rectify the problem. They used program funding to build a fence around the riparian area and also developed a spring at the top of a nearby slope to provide an alternate drinking area for the cattle. With the cattle no longer grazing in the area, cottonwood trees and shrubs are growing in the area again. The salmon habitat has improved and elk, deer, geese, ducks, blue herons, and other small water birds have become abundant.

For their actions as CRP participants the Steigers will be presented with the Conservation Reserve Program Outstanding American Conservationist Award by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns at the U.S. Department of Agriculture on Wednesday, September 13, 2006.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the actions of Kenneth and Linda Steigers. It is accomplishments like this that make our world a more beautiful and enjoyable place to live.

TRIBUTE TO CENTER POINT INC. AND CEO DR. SUSHMA TAYLOR

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor both Center Point, Inc. and its President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Sushma Taylor. The agency is commemorating 35 years of service to the people of California while celebrating Dr. Taylor's 25 years of visionary leadership with the agency.

Founded as a small rehabilitation program in Marin County, California, Center Point now offers a continuum of statewide services for

high-risk families, adults, and youths. With 30 sites in California and over 12,000 clients per year, the staff provides a wide array of health, social, and rehabilitative services to combat poverty, homelessness, unemployment, and psychological and substance abuse problems. Sushma Taylor's dedication has been the driving force behind the creation of this expansive and successful agency we see today.

Center Point's mission is to provide a range of affordable support services by offering education, training, health care, and counseling support so that those they serve can claim self-worth and dignity. Dr. Taylor's values and experience have been an ideal match for this mission.

Throughout her career, Sushma's primary focus has been to create opportunities and remove barriers for high-risk clients. She has long been a champion of those requiring social rehabilitation to improve their quality of life and their personal and social responsibility.

Sushma's father was an ambassador for the government of India, where she was born. The family relocated frequently, giving her a multi-cultural and multi-lingual orientation. She moved to Marin County in 1974. With a Master's Degree in Public Administration, and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, and as a Licensed Marriage Family Therapist, she had the background to serve as Director of Marin and Sonoma County's Treatment Alternative to Street Crime projects in coordination with each county's mental health department. She worked to develop a unique justice diversion project that was replicated nationally.

In 1981, Sushma became Executive Director of Center Point. Today the agency's clients receive a continuum of individualized services created by Sushma and funded through grants and contracts that she has successfully pursued. Graduates of the treatment programs move on to transitional housing and continuing care services as they prepare to successfully reintegrate into the community.

Sushma has also expanded Center Point programs to the state of Oklahoma has established them in California state prisons, dramatically reducing crime and recidivism. She is one of the foremost authorities in the nation on treatment for women and provides consultation around the world. She also works closely with local state, and federal agencies to form policies that advance the field of addiction treatment.

Mr. Speaker, Center Point's graduates are living proof of the achievement of their mission and of Dr. Sushma Taylor's belief that her true success is the successes of those she serves. Center Point believes that adversity can be overcome and the extraordinary achieved. And with Dr. Taylor's guidance, this has been demonstrated many times over. It is a pleasure to honor Dr. Taylor and Center Point on this memorable occasion.

TRIBUTE TO HOLY REDEEMER CATHOLIC CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to the people of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Portland on their

Centennial Celebration. Holy Redeemer has long held a place in my heart, and I have been honored to represent the people and parish for nearly 30 years. Holy Redeemer is well known for its positive contributions to the neighborhood and the residents of North and Northeast Portland. Since 1906, the church has been a community anchor and a center of education, spiritual support, justice to all people, and good works.

Catholic education has played an important role in Oregon, and more children have graduated from Holy Redeemer School than any other Catholic grade school in Oregon. The gift of education liberates people and in turn has made Portland and Oregon better communities. We owe thanks to the founding priests and brothers of the Redemptorist Order, the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary, thousands of parishioners, and now the Congregation of Holy Redeemer Catholic Church for making my Congressional District and all of Oregon a better place.

TRIBUTE FOR SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. THELMA D. DRAKE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mrs. DRAKE. Mr. Speaker, yesterday we remembered the tragic events that unfolded 5 years ago on the morning of Tuesday, September 11, 2001.

We remembered a day replete with loss, but also replete with heroism.

As we reflect on those who died that fateful day—as we mourn those family members and friends whose lives were taken by a group of radical extremists, I would like to pay tribute to the 343 firefighters who were lost in the wreckage of the World Trade Center.

I am often amazed when I reflect back on the acts of those firefighters. For most, the human instinct is to turn and run away from imminent danger. Yet, they were prepared to sacrifice their own lives in order to save the lives of those they had never met. This courage was born from a commitment to service that is shared with thousands more across the Nation.

They are our first responders, and every time America is threatened, whether by an act of God or an act of man, they are the first to arrive, providing certainty out of an uncertain situation. Many Americans, in New York City and around our country, owe their lives to first responders. We owe them an immeasurable debt of gratitude, not only for what they have done, but for what they are prepared to do.

We must never forget the tragedy of September 11th, and we should never forget the triumphs of September 11th. America is a better place because of the strength, the courage and the determination of our first responders.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2006—A DAY OF SORROW AND REMEMBRANCE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, 5 years removed from the tragedy of

September 11, 2001, our Nation still feels the pain and sorrow from that fateful day. Like no other event in recent history, September 11 brought America together in a time of grief and an outpouring of emotion. Today, we remember the 3,000 innocent lives taken in the blink of an eye by these terrorist attacks.

I still remember watching the news that Tuesday morning and seeing footage of the planes hitting the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. Like you, I sat and prayed for the men and women that were trapped in the smoking buildings. Everyone offered our thanks to those brave citizens of New York and Virginia who rushed into the burning wreckage, trying to rescue any possible survivors. And I wept when watching the towers collapse into the streets of New York. These are moments frozen in time that no American could ever forget.

On the anniversary of these horrible attacks, it is fitting for Americans to pause and reflect on the challenges our Nation now faces to defend our freedoms. A committed group of religious Islamic terrorists—fanatics who twist and pervert the teachings of the Koran to meet their extremist goals—are bent on destroying America and its allies in the global war on terror.

We have seen attacks in Britain, Spain and Indonesia that have killed hundreds of innocent civilians. Law enforcement officials have used innovative and modernized counterterrorism policies to help successfully thwart terrorist plots in the Netherlands, Britain, Canada and the United States; plots that may have killed thousands. The lesson learned from these experiences is that we must remain ever vigilant in the global war if we are to defend against this enemy.

Like December 7, 1941 before it, September 11 has become a day of remembrance. It is a time to remember the lives lost that day, as well as the sacrifices made by our brave soldiers deployed on the front lines. September 11 is also a reminder that there is work left to do. It is groups like al-Qaeda, Hezbollah and Hamas whose goal it is to destroy America and everything that defines our great Nation. They will continue to plot new and innovative terrorist attacks against our homeland and our people. It is up to the Congress and the President to work together to ensure that September 11 is never repeated again.

America must never forget the events of September 11, 2001. They shaped a generation of men and women across the country and thrust us squarely into the global war on terror. On the fifth anniversary of that day, the United States should pause to remember the thousands of innocent lives lost and the sacrifices of the military men and women who serve around the globe to protect our rights and freedoms.

TRIBUTE TO MR. WESLEY GORDON II

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable citizen, Mr. Wesley Gordon II of Fort Atkinson, WI. The National Postmaster of the Year award was recently

bestowed upon Mr. Gordon in recognition of his contributions to the community and to the U.S. Postal Service.

Mr. Gordon, who began his career as a temporary mail carrier in Middleton, has been head of the Fort Atkinson Post Office since 1995. Serving in a number of different capacities and communities throughout his career, Mr. Gordon served as the officer in charge in Highland, Cottage Grove, Brodhead and Fort Atkinson and postmaster in Wisconsin Dells and Monroe.

In addition to his 37 years of work for the U.S. Postal Service, Wesley Gordon has been a longtime soccer and baseball coach, is an active member of the Lions Club and Knights of Columbus and volunteers for St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fort Atkinson.

In the local postal community, Mr. Gordon is known as a leader who understands the concept of teamwork. He is quick to point out the importance and excellence of his employees as he talks about his vision for the future, which is "to make every post office a place people enjoy coming to and want to return to."

I am pleased to join with the U.S. Postal Service in recognizing Mr. Gordon's hard work and dedication. Fort Atkinson and the State of Wisconsin are fortunate and grateful to be the beneficiaries of Wesley Gordon's work. Thank you, Mr. Gordon, and best of luck with your future endeavors.

COMMENDING REV. THADDEUS SWIRSKI

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank the Rev. Thaddeus Swirski, pastor of St. Hedwig's Church, in Akron, Ohio, for his service to his parish, the community, and our nation.

A member of the faculty of the University of Akron, Rev. Swirski serves as Chaplain for ROTC Army and Air Force, and the Ohio Military Reserve in the rank of Colonel. He has received six distinguished medals for his military service.

Father Swirski grew up in German-occupied Poland. Born on April 26, 1930, and orphaned at age 3, he spent his first years in Warsaw and later in an orphanage near the Russian border. As an elementary school student, he became active in the Polish underground and joined the resistance against Nazi occupation. He was decorated for his participation in the resistance.

At age 14, Father Swirski joined the First Polish Army, which was organized in the former Polish territory then occupied by Russia. As a young soldier, he participated in the battlefield near Moscow, in Warsaw, then in Berlin, and the River Elba as well as in the Baltic region and Western Polish territory. He was highly decorated by the end of the war. After the collapse of communism in East Europe, Father Swirski was promoted to the rank of Colonel.

Though he was homeless at the end of the war, he became a full-time student, attending day, evening, and summer classes in order to finish high school, working to support himself as he studied. After completing high school,

he exchanged his rifle for the Chalice, Cross and Bible and entered the Seminary. He was ordained into the priesthood on June 29, 1954, in Warmia, Poland.

In August, 1962, he emigrated to the United States and subsequently earned his Master's degree from Case Western Reserve University. He was incardinated into the Diocese of Cleveland and taught Slavic languages and literature at Ursuline College. He also studied for his Ph.D. at the University of Ottawa, Canada. For seven years, Father Swirski hosted a religious program on Sunday mornings on WXEN FM in Cleveland. He is also the author of two novels and four books of poetry.

Father Swirski considers his priesthood his most important vocation and has worked diligently to keep St. Hedwig's Parish spiritually and financially viable. Though his parish is small, thanks to Father Swirski, St. Hedwig's has helped the needy through donations of food for many years. Father Swirski never refuses to help meet the spiritual needs of his parishioners, their families, and their relatives.

Father Swirski is the longest serving pastor of St. Hedwig's Parish, serving from July, 1974, to the present. I am grateful for his unflinching and compassionate service to his parish and to the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT FIRST
CLASS RICHARD J. HENKES

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, I ask for your attention so we can honor a fallen hero. Sergeant First Class Richard J. Henkes was a proud American, a fellow Oregonian—he was a warrior who stood on the edge of the world so that each of us could enjoy the blessings of liberty.

I ask for this moment because just last week, Richard gave his last full measure of devotion while on patrol in Mosul, Iraq.

Though the war continues on, we must remember the individual sacrifice of the men and women fulfilling their charge. We cannot allow ourselves to forget the faces or the families of the brave soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines that serve on the brink of chaos so that others might live free.

Sergeant Henkes was courageous; he selflessly went where others feared to tread. I believe that Oregon, that America, that our world is less, far less, for his passing. We can ill afford to lose patriots of his character and passion.

Yesterday we gathered with friends and loved ones to mark the passing of another September 11th. It has been five years since the terror attacks of 2001. Since that day we have been a nation at war; since that moment we have fought that war by sending our best and brightest across the globe to defend our ideals, to protect our communities. And since that time we have been in debt to citizens like Richard Henkes.

Richard wanted a life in uniform so that he could make a difference; he viewed service to his country as a calling and wanted to keep his nation, state, and community safe from harm. Sergeant Henkes understood what many forget: freedom demands sacrifice. We

are indebted to his willingness to take upon himself the burden of service; we are forever connected to Richard because of his devotion to our lives.

Sergeant Henkes remained in the Army because he wanted something better for his daughter Isabel. Like most of us, Richard hoped that his child could inherit a healthier place, a safer community. Sadly, Sergeant Henkes will not be able to secure that future for Isabel, but we can. She is now a part of our family; Isabel is now our shared responsibility.

We in this chamber have an obligation, a duty, to ensure that Isabel inherits a land worthy of her father's sacrifice. We here today, must bear personal responsibility for doing our part—for Richard has already done his.

Although I never had the opportunity to meet Richard, I know him through his actions, his hopes, and his values. When his nation called, Richard answered. When his daughter needed, Richard delivered. And when duty demanded the ultimate sacrifice, Richard fulfilled his charge without hesitation, reservation, or doubt.

Today let us come together and express our profound sorrow at the loss of our Richard Henkes. Let us join in one voice and tell the Henkes family that we thank them for the life and service of their Richard. Let us prove to them by our actions in the future, that his sacrifice was not in vain. And let us endeavor to keep Richard and all those he served with in our thoughts and prayers as we decide the course of our nation.

THE U.N. HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL:
REFORM OR REGRESSION?

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week I chaired a hearing to examine issues related to the new United Nations Human Rights Council, which held its first session from the 19th to the 30th of June, this year, and two special sessions in July and August, respectively.

I believe it is tragic, and dismaying in the extreme to note that despite the self-congratulatory euphoria of many last March at its creation, the new human rights machinery remains broken, in need of serious repair and fundamental reform. The Human Rights Council has, thus far, continued the credibility deficit of its predecessor. The victims of abuse throughout the world deserve better. And, thus far, they haven't gotten it.

Not only did the Council unfairly and myopically criticize Israel at its inaugural session, but both special sessions convened to date—on July 5–6 and August 11—were held exclusively to condemn Israel with nary a mention of egregious abuse by Hezbollah or Hamas or the roles of Syria and Iran.

Amazingly, there has been no special session on the ongoing—and worsening—genocide in Darfur. No special session of the systematic use of torture by the People's Republic of China, even though Manfred Nowak, the U.N.'s own rapporteur on torture, recently issued a scathing report on the pervasive use of torture by the Chinese government; no spe-

cial session on Cuba's abuse of political prisoners or on Burma or North Korea or Belarus or Iran or Zimbabwe. Just Israel.

Not only has the Council expended all its efforts on Israel, but it has also failed to do so in a "fair and equal manner." The Council has made no reference to the roles of Hamas, Hezbollah, Syria and Iran in the creation of the situations concerned or to the harm inflicted by parties other than Israel. Thus, the early evidence indicates that the Council has already been co-opted by an extremely biased and narrow agenda.

This development is of extreme concern, both for the international human rights community and for those of us convinced of the need for reform at the United Nations. The Human Rights Council, and through it the United Nations as a whole, have a vital role to play in the promotion and protection of human rights. It is critical that the United States and other human rights defenders do everything, and as quickly as possible, to reverse the direction in which the Council is heading.

By way of background, on April 19, 2005, the subcommittee that I chair, the Subcommittee of Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations, held a hearing on the Council's predecessor, the U.N. Commission on Human Rights. In my statement at that hearing, I noted that the Commission had come under increasing criticism from numerous quarters. A U.N. High-Level Panel concluded in December 2004 that the Commission's capacity to fulfill its mandate had been undermined by eroding credibility and professionalism. The Panel pointed out that States with a poor human rights record cannot set the standard for human rights. U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan later agreed with this assessment, and he told the Commission that "unless we re-make our human rights machinery, we may be unable to renew public confidence in the United Nations itself."

On March 15, 2006, the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution that replaced the discredited Commission with the Human Rights Council. The General Assembly gave the Council the mandate to promote "universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner," and to "address situations of violations of human rights, including gross and systematic violations." The United States was one of four countries to vote against the resolution. The U.S.'s opposition was based on the absence of a stronger mechanism to maintain a credible membership, and thus the lack of assurance that the Council would be an improvement over its predecessor.

In my public statement issued immediately after the resolution's adoption, I expressed my deep disappointment that the General Assembly had settled for a weak and deeply flawed replacement for the Commission. The flaws I noted included the membership concerns expressed by the United States, as well as the lack of protection for Israel from unfair and biased special sessions.

Another potentially serious flaw that I have noted is the Council's mandate to promote follow-up to the goals and commitments related to the promotion and protection of human rights emanating from United Nations conferences and summits. My concern is based in large part on the serious distinction that exists between human rights treaties and consensus

documents resulting from U.N. conferences. Treaties are negotiated by U.N. member states, and they may or may not be subsequently ratified through the established approval process of each country. Those states that do ratify a treaty thereby agree to be bound by its provisions under international law. U.N. conference documents, on the other hand, are the result of policy debates and are agreed to by consensus at the end of the conference. These consensus documents are not negotiated as legally-binding instruments and are not subject to a ratification process. They do not have, and should not have, the same legal authority as treaties.

For this reason, the U.N. General Assembly was extremely misguided when it assigned the Human Rights Council the task of promoting these conference commitments. By doing so, it threatens to diminish the moral and legal persuasiveness of internationally-recognized human rights by equating them with mere policy directives. Even more troubling, the resolution calls for the promotion of human rights "emanating" from the U.N. conferences. The very word "emanating" implies that a characteristic or action need not be clearly defined in a conference document in order for the Council to undertake its promotion. This, together with the fact that these conference documents are consensus documents, raises the specter that any number of characteristics or actions may slide their way into the international human rights framework without the ratified agreement of countries who would then be pressured to abide by their provisions. Such a gaping loophole in the international legal process is antithetical to the democratic ideals of our own country and to the principles on which the United Nations is based.

This potential for the gross abuse of the United Nations human rights mechanisms is already being realized with respect to the issue of abortion. For several years now, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, the Human Rights Committee and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights have been pressuring governments to legalize abortion even though no U.N. human rights treaty addresses the issue. These and other treaty bodies pursue this ideological agenda while ignoring the fact that abortion exploits women and is an act of violence against children. Just two weeks ago, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women published "concerns" about the illegality of abortion in Chile, Mauritius and the Philippines. In October 2005, the Human Rights Committee decided in a case from Peru presented to it under the ICCPR Optional Protocol that denying access to an abortion violates women's human rights. It made no reference to the unborn child's right to life and to be free from the terrifying effect of an array of child killing poisons currently on the market or dismemberment.

Even the Committee against Torture, which is responsible for monitoring compliance with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, is joining this assault on the unborn. In February of this year, pursuant to its review of Peru's compliance with the Convention, the Committee concluded that Peru's "omission" in failing to provide abortion constitutes "cruel and inhuman acts." The Committee has no basis in the Convention for challenging a state party's refusal to provide an

abortion. However, if one were to concede that the Committee is warranted in examining the issue of abortion under Article 16, then the Committee should have no choice but to conclude that the chemical poisoning and dismemberment of the fragile, sensitive body of an unborn child is itself a "cruel and inhuman act." (And now we know that unborn children feel pain at least at 20 weeks gestation—perhaps earlier, which is why I have introduced the Unborn Child Pain Awareness Act.)

In many of their decisions, these treaty bodies do not refer to the text of the treaty they are supposed to be monitoring, but to documents adopted at U.N. conferences. They do so out of necessity, since the countries they are pressuring have never agreed to legalize or provide for the destruction of the life of the unborn in the instruments that they have ratified. Based on this entrenched and growing manipulation of the U.N. human rights mechanisms to promote abortion, there is reason to believe that the Human Rights Council will also be co-opted into promoting ideological agendas at variance with the established human rights norms of the international community.

The skepticism generally about the ability of the Human Rights Council to promote human rights and address human rights violations, and to do so in a fair and equal manner, has increased with the election of its members and subsequent activity. Although the General Assembly resolution states that its members must take into account the contribution of candidates to the promotion and protection of human rights, such notorious human rights abusers as China, Cuba and Saudi Arabia were elected to the Council. Since it began its work less than three months ago, the Human Rights Council has issued three country-specific resolutions, all of them targeting just one country. Such egregious and long-time human rights abusers as Sudan, China, Cuba, Burma, Iran, North Korea, Zimbabwe and Belarus have not even been mentioned on the agenda.

I therefore convened the September 6th hearing to examine what needs to be done to prevent the Council from repeating or further regressing from the failures of the Commission on Human Rights, as well as to support any signs of improvement over its predecessor. The Subcommittee explored how the Council is being assisted by the United States and others to fulfill its mandate, the areas in which further assistance and reform is required, and the standards that the Human Rights Council will need to meet in order to qualify as a credible international human rights body.

In his address in April 2005 to the Commission on Human Rights, the UN Secretary-General argued for a new, reformed human rights council on the basis that it would "allow for a more comprehensive and objective approach. And ultimately it would produce more effective assistance and protections, and that is the yardstick by which we should be measured." It is not too soon to start measuring the Council by this yardstick, and members of the Subcommittee benefited from the testimony of our distinguished witnesses that provided us with the means for such an evaluation.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING
SERVICE TO OUR NATION'S VET-
ERANS

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, as a veteran myself and an avid advocate for veterans in the United States House of Representatives, I believe it is important to recognize individuals who go above and beyond the call of duty to serve the men and women who bravely wore our nation's military uniform. The James Haley VA Medical Center, VAMC, in Tampa, FL is one of the busiest veterans' medical facilities in the country and provides care to approximately 142,000 veterans in Central Florida.

All employees, excluding service chiefs, who have been employed at the Tampa VAMC for at least 1 year, are eligible to receive the "Hospital Ambassador Award." I am pleased to be able to recognize recent recipients of this award: Geraldine Penia, pharmacy technician; Michele Overland, social worker; Douglas Covey, pharmacist; Jerome Sipes, police officer; Charles Gutierrez, registered respiratory therapist; Ruthe Hunter, supervisor program specialist; Nenita Auza, staff nurse; Betty Thomas, program supply assistant.

I am also pleased to be able to recognize several employees at the Port Richey Outpatient Clinic for their outstanding work. These individuals have received "Employee of the Quarter Awards": Virginia Osmar, program supply clerk; Evelyn Gines-Dasilva, nurse.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to these outstanding employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs and commend each of them for the tremendous service they provide to our Nation's veterans.

THIS 45TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate The Hospitality and Information Service, THIS, of Washington, DC, on its 45th anniversary. Since 1961, THIS volunteers have welcomed diplomats and their families to Washington, providing friendship, assistance and an understanding of Washington and the United States.

THIS was organized in 1961 at the suggestion of Angie Biddle, then Chief of Protocol, to help the hundreds of newly arrived diplomats and their families adjust to Washington. THIS is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization that receives financial support from its volunteers, the Meridian International Center, and corporations. Its sponsors include members of the President's Cabinet or their spouses, and the spouse of the Mayor of the District of Columbia.

In 1961, there were 101 embassies with 1,200 diplomatic families. Today, embassies total more than 170, with 4,000 diplomats and families in Washington. The 400 volunteers of THIS provide a variety of services and programs to help diplomats and their families

learn about Washington through English and seven foreign conversation groups and a book club. Programs include forums for discussion of issues that are worldwide in scope, such as health, human rights and education. We also have programs on government affairs, performing arts, art and architecture, and American history, among others.

In today's difficult world, THIS is a beacon of light, holding out the arm of friendship without expecting anything in return. THIS has made a difference in the lives of so many diplomats, and I would like to share with you a few comments from some grateful recipients:

"THIS has enriched my stay in the United States by enhancing my fundamental understanding of the culture and society."—Pakistan

"I would like to thank THIS for the wonderful work that you do and for your warm and friendly attention."—Miriam Barak, Israel

"I express both my pleasure and my gratitude to the THIS organization as a whole. THIS is a wonderful vehicle by which the best of America is portrayed. Such an organization can only be an influential force for good."—Ann Robinson, Great Britain

"THIS is a fantastic organization. It makes me feel very welcomed and comfortable . . . THIS has given me a better understanding of U.S. life and society and also has given me some new good American friends."—Ingela Beiming, Sweden

"THIS is a window that opens Washington for us and lets us experience and know it. It opens opportunities to meet different people."—Marilia Bulhoes, Brazil

Congratulations, THIS, on 45 splendid years. May you enjoy many more.

REGONIZING THE LATINO COMMUNITY OF BUFFALO AND THE PUERTO RICAN DAY PARADE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Buffalo's Latino community and the dynamic role they play in our region.

On Saturday, September 9, 2006, I joined with the city of Buffalo to celebrate and enjoy the Fourth Annual Puerto Rican Day Parade and the festivities that accompany it. I would like to acknowledge and thank this year's grand marshal, Andres Garcia.

The theme of this year's parade and related festivities was "United We Progress." This theme was chosen because it encompasses the attitude and spirit of this diverse and dynamic population and its interaction with the community of Buffalo as a whole.

The Latino community in the county of Erie encompasses over 30,000 people. Buffalo's Latino community is built upon peoples from all over Latin and South America. Their shared heritage has developed into a united force that has enabled them to positively impact our city for decades, and we expect, for decades to follow. The solidarity of the Latino community is a telling example of how by working together we accomplish good and great things.

According to the 2000 Census over 20,000 Puerto Ricans call the city of Buffalo and sur-

rounding areas their home. On this day, we celebrate the music, food, and history of their culture. A culture which has been shared with Western New Yorkers of all backgrounds, to the benefit of our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and gratitude that I stand here today to recognize the Latino Community of Western New York. I am honored to join in the celebration of Buffalo's Latino history and culture.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EPPINGER MANUFACTURING CO.

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Eppinger Manufacturing Company on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

Lou Eppinger created his simple metal spoon lure in 1906. It quickly became known for its fish attracting wobble. He patented it as the "Osprey" in 1912. Following World War I, he renamed the lure to "Dardevle" in honor of the 4th Marine Brigade the Allies nicknamed the Dare Devils. It has since earned such accolades as one of "The 10 Best Lures in the World" and "50 Best Lures of All Time."

In the beginning Lou Eppinger sold 500 Dardevles a year. Today Eppinger Manufacturing sells over 2 million a year and produces 17,000 different varieties of lures. This can be attributed to his strong belief in advertising. Before he turned over the company to his nephew Ed Eppinger, Lou advised, "Advertise even if you have only a nickel left to your name."

At a time when many corporations are moving their business overseas, Eppinger has kept its manufacturing plant in Dearborn for decades. Many of its employees have been working at Eppinger for over 30 years. Today Eppinger is run by Karen Eppinger, the grandniece of the founder, and her two children, Jennifer and Wesley.

I must also mention my own personal affection for Eppinger's quality products. Whenever I had a chance to fish, I knew that with one of Lou's masterpieces on my line, the brook trout didn't stand a chance. I owe many big catches and many fine meals to Lou's masterful work and durable product.

I would like to ask my colleagues to rise and join me in commending Eppinger Manufacturing Company for 100 years of service to the community and area sportsmen. I extend my best wishes to Eppinger for continued success in the fishing lure business.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT RAYMOND PLOUHAR

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Sergeant Raymond

Plouhar, who gave the ultimate sacrifice for his Nation on June 26, 2006, while serving in Iraq. What follows is an inspirational poem Sergeant Plouhar wrote before he was killed in the line of duty.

THIS IS WHO I AM

This is me, this is who I am
I am a Marine to the very end
I live by the motto that is Semper Paratus
I come to countries in far off lands
to fight for freedom for which most are to
scared to stand

Do not judge me for what I do
for what I do I do for you

I will kill for those who cannot kill
I will die for those too scared to

I will leave my loved ones, my kids, my wife
I will leave them all behind to give you a
better life

I have seen and done things that will haunt
my dreams

I have given up many things for you to be
free

Do not feel pity for me, for this is my choice
I chose this life so people like you can have
a voice

I will die on my feet, I will not live on my
knees

I will do this so America can stay free

This is me, this is who I am

I am a Marine to the very end.

HONORING ANNA SCHUBERT OF LOUISVILLE, COLORADO

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Anna Schubert, an excellent young scholar who has a bright future ahead of her. Anna was selected by the Alliance for Affordable Services to be the recipient of a \$2,000 scholarship for the 2006–2007 school year. While there are many deserving scholars in our communities, it is worth noting the outstanding caliber of students such as Anna. Young people like Anna will lead our country into the future, achieve new breakthroughs in science and medicine, and protect our environment for future generations.

Anna will have the opportunity to receive an additional \$1,000 every year of her undergraduate career, a goal that is accomplished by keeping a 3.5 overall grade point average. Although an arduous task for any student, I am confident this exceptional young lady will achieve it through her hard work and dedication.

It is an honor for the State of Colorado and this Nation to have bright, young individuals that are excelling beyond barriers. Such ambitions are necessary qualities in the next generation for the United States to maintain its leadership role in this new century.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our congratulations to Anna Schubert and her family. We wish her the best in both her undergraduate career and in all her future endeavors.

HONORING H. MERLE JACKSON,
VICE CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. HOOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great Oregonian and a proud American, H. Merle Jackson.

Mr. Jackson, a native son of Oregon, served his country for 32 years. During his nine years on active duty in the United States Air Force, two years on active duty in the United States Navy and 21 years as a member of the United States Army Reserve, he served all over the world, including the Korean War and multiple tours in Vietnam, finishing his service to our Nation as a Master Sergeant.

After his retirement, Mr. Jackson continued his commitment to our Nation by taking up the cause of our retired fighting men and women through his work with the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). He has served as a post and district commander, state chairman and from 1998–99 he was the Department Commander for the State of Oregon.

Today, Mr. Jackson continues his lifelong dedication to those who have sacrificed so much for our Nation, as he enters his fourth year on the National Legislative Committee to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and his first year as Vice Chairman of this prestigious committee. He is the first Oregonian to serve in this capacity, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his dedication and determination to ensuring that we meet our responsibilities to our Nation's veterans.

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED BOSILEVAC

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Fred Bosilevac, one of the most beloved people in Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas, celebrates his 90th birthday on September 11, 2006. Since 1970, two years after its inception, Dr. Fred has been president of Congressional Forum, a monthly luncheon with the area's third Congressional District representative sponsored by the Kansas City Kansas Area Chamber of Commerce. In addition to me, my Third District congressional predecessors who have fond memories of Dr. Fred include Larry Winn, Jr.; Jan Meyers; and Vince Snowbarger. Dr. Fred is known for his pithy commentary, regardless of the subject or speaker. He is the heart and soul of the Congressional Forum.

Dr. Fred is a native son of Kansas City, Kansas, from the historic Strawberry Hill neighborhood. He was the first medical doctor of Croatian descent in the area. He started his practice in the Brotherhood Building in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1949. He later moved his practice to the medical building on 18th Street. He practiced ophthalmology for 49 years.

Dr. Fred is also notable alumnus of the University of Kansas, which also is in my congressional district. Dr. Fred was a member of

the 1937 University of Kansas men's basketball team, and he and his son, Dr. Fred Bosilevac, III, are among four father-son combinations that played for the Jayhawks. Dr. Fred's 1937 team also played in the Final Four, which guaranteed him god-like status in my congressional district.

In addition to playing basketball, Dr. Fred played championship football at KU and was pressured to sign with a professional team after graduation. Nevertheless, he decided to attend medical school on the advice of his mother who reminded him that doctors made a good living.

Dr. Fred is an all around athlete and remains an avid hunter and golfer. A spring hunting accident in which he tripped and dislocated a shoulder required some surgery but has not deterred him from swinging a golf club daily.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Dr. Fred Bosilevac our heartiest wishes for a joyous day, and many more years for us to enjoy his marvelous example of a good and happy life.

IN MEMORIAM OF A SON OF TEXAS: JUDGE JAMES DEANDA

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in great honor and solemn regret for a great son of Houston that passed away last Thursday. I stand in honor of the late U.S. District Judge James deAnda who passed last week from a battle with cancer.

The son of Mexican immigrants, James deAnda was born and raised in North Houston and graduated from my alma mater, Jeff Davis High School. He went on to graduate from Texas A&M University, but not before he joined the U.S. Marines and served in the Pacific during WWII. Once returning from service he graduated from the University of Texas School of Law.

With a resume of this caliber James deAnda could have gone on to private practice and plea cases that would have made him a very rich man. Instead he went on to fight for the disproportionate and unrepresented Texans of that time. James deAnda went on to work cases, pro-bono cases, to fight segregation of Hispanics within Texas' schools, he also won a Supreme Court ruling stating that Hispanics were a separate group deserving of the same constitutional protection as other minorities.

While his career was a long and great one, cases such as these serve as witness to the type of character that Judge deAnda was. A man that never sought after the limelight or recognition.

Fortunately for all of us, he did gain recognition 1979, when President Jimmy Carter appointed James deAnda to serve as Federal Judge for the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Texas. He later would serve as Chief Judge of the Southern District of Texas. He became the second Hispanic to be appointed to a Federal Judge bench.

He served in this role with distinction until he retired in 1988, he went back to work in the private sector until he began cancer therapy.

Judge James deAnda leaves us with a great sense of honor and pride. The footprints that

he has left for us will be hard to follow. Judge deAnda took part in the creation of the Texas Rural Legal Aid and he was the co-founder of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, but most importantly he changed the law to work for all men and women during a time when there were many that were opposed to such change.

Mr. Speaker I ask for one minute of silence in honor of Judge James deAnda, not only a son and public servant of Texas but also of this great Nation. I ask this as his service takes place back home in Houston.

SALUTE TO RUSTY HAMMER

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my best wishes and sincere gratitude to Rusty Hammer, who, after 5 fruitful years, left his position as president and chief executive officer of the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce.

In keeping with the chamber's 118-year history, Rusty dedicated himself to improving the quality of life and economic prosperity of the Los Angeles Chamber's 1,500 members, who represent more than 600,000 employees throughout the Los Angeles region. Under Rusty's strong leadership, the Los Angeles Chamber has successfully built partnerships between business, community, labor and civic organizations. These partnerships have reestablished the chamber as the Los Angeles region's premier business advocacy organization.

During Rusty's tenure, he pioneered many noteworthy projects. For example, Rusty spearheaded the chamber's effort on local business tax reform and established a highly successful workforce development program. His leadership role in creating "Mobility 21," a transportation advocacy coalition, helped secure over \$2 billion in State and Federal funding for transportation improvements in Los Angeles. By partnering with the organization UNITE LA, Rusty helped create a badly needed and extremely valuable college scholarship program that has provided scholarships, application assistance, and college access information to nearly 30,000 students in the Los Angeles region.

Under Rusty's stewardship, the chamber's annual trip to Washington, DC, has become one of the most successful advocacy efforts on behalf of the Los Angeles region and the Los Angeles business community. In addition, his weekly opinion article, "The Business Perspective," provides an insightful and informative look at business issues facing the Los Angeles region.

Rusty's talents, innovative strategic thinking and willingness to work with stakeholders on all sides of the political spectrum have played an integral role in the Los Angeles area's economic growth. He has truly earned the respect, admiration and gratitude of all who know him and have worked with him.

While Rusty Hammer will truly be missed in Los Angeles and at the Los Angeles Area Chamber, we will all continue to benefit from his many contributions. We are fortunate that we will also gain from his talents as he continues to work on issues that affect California's economy and quality of life.

My husband, Ed, and I are fortunate to have Rusty and his very special wife, Pam, as dear friends. I am proud to join the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce in thanking Rusty Hammer for his great leadership and many contributions to the Los Angeles region and the business community. Ed and I send our best wishes and sincere gratitude to Rusty, Pam and his wonderful family.

RECOGNIZING TINA BATT FOR HER
WORK WITH THE MUIR HERITAGE
LAND TRUST

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Tina Batt, the Founding Executive Director of the Muir Heritage Land Trust, as she leaves her post after eighteen years of dedicated service.

Under Ms. Batt's leadership, the Martinez Regional Land Trust grew to become the Muir Heritage Land Trust, a powerful force for conservation in Contra Costa County. She has been directly responsible for preserving over 2000 acres of open space in and around the City of Martinez, California. Her passion for the environment and dedication to preserving our heritage has translated into a highly successful fundraising effort that has over the years totaled over five million dollars.

The Muir Heritage Land Trust has also expanded its public agency partners to include the Bay Area Ridge Trail, the California Coastal Conservancy, California Wildlife Conservation Board, California Departments of Fish and Game and Water Resources, the City of Martinez, Contra Costa Fish and Wildlife Committee, East Bay Regional Park District, the Environmental Enhancement Mitigation Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Critical support from well-established public and private foundations has increased dramatically due to Tina's efforts. The list of supporters now includes the Bechtel Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, Firedoll Foundation, David B. Gold Foundation, Martinez Community Foundation, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, David and Lucille Packard Foundation, Resources Legacy Fund, the B.T. Rocca, Jr., Foundation, the San Francisco Foundation, the Charles Schwab Corporation Foundation, L.J. & Mary C. Skaggs Foundation, Strong Foundation for Environmental Values, Trust for Public Land, the Morrison Foerster Foundation, and the Valley Foundation. She also fostered steadfast corporate support from Union Bank of California, Conoco Phillips, Mechanics Bank, Shell Oil Products, Tesero Corporation, Chevron, Parsons Corporation, Shapell Homes, Telfer Oil, Dow Chemical Company, John Muir Health, Overaa Construction, Plumbers & Steamfitters Union Local 159, Contra Costa Times, Diablo Magazine, East Bay Business Times, and Galilee Enterprise.

With all of this valued support, Tina Batt has led the Muir Heritage Land Trust through a phenomenal period of expansion. The Trust has preserved easements, facilitated acquisi-

tion of treasured open space, and ensured the permanent protection of an important segment of the Bay Area Ridge Trail, which runs the length of the Franklin Ridge from Martinez to Hercules and Crockett.

Mr. Speaker, because of Ms. Tina Batt's many contributions to acquisition and preservation of open space in Contra Costa County, I am delighted to have this opportunity to recognize her tireless efforts, and ask all Members of the House to join me in wishing her well in her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING TAYLOR CHAN
ON HER RECEIPT OF A JEFFERSON
AWARD

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Taylor Chan on her recent receipt of the Jefferson Award and to thank her for her ongoing community service to seniors in San Francisco. The Jefferson Award is given by the American Institute for Public Service, founded by Jacqueline Kennedy, Senators Robert Taft Jr. and Sam Beard. The award is considered the Nobel Prize for public and community service. I congratulate her on receiving this award, and am proud that she resides in my congressional district.

Taylor Chan is unique among Jefferson Award winners in that she is a mere 13 years of age. For the last six years, since Taylor was the weak tender age of 8, she has been playing piano and violin for seniors at the Adult Day Health Center in San Francisco. Recognizing that many seniors have neither the financial resources nor the mobility to attend the opera or the symphony, Taylor and her older sister Tracy have been performing one-hour concerts to provide the seniors at the Adult Day Health Center with the gift of music. The seniors and the staff at the Health Center have roundly praised not only Taylor's generosity but her prodigious skill. While Taylor may still be in her formative years, she already has nine years of experience playing the piano and nearly six years playing the violin. I assert with great confidence that Miss Chan will accomplish a great many things more in the future as both a musician and a human being.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Taylor for her contribution to the senior community in San Francisco and congratulating her on this award. I am truly delighted and find inspiration in Taylor's accomplishments at such a young age.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE SENIOR
CENTER OF BOULDER CITY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Senior Center of Boulder City which will celebrate the Grand Opening of their new location on June 3, 2006.

Originally founded in 1975, the Senior Center of Boulder City enhances the quality of life

and promotes wellness by providing social, educational, and health services to seniors in the community. Due to budget cutbacks that forced the elimination of city-funded senior programs, volunteers formed the Senior Center of Boulder City, Inc. in 1983, a private nonprofit (501C3) corporation to maintain the services of the senior center. Since that time, the Senior Center has been maintained by volunteers who desired to give services to seniors when there was no other city funded programs available. Founding Director Bert D. Hildebrand, and the first Executive Director, Marilyn Moore were both instrumental in obtaining the Center's current site. The Senior Center is presently located in a historic building built in 1932 in the heart of historic Old Town and remains a center of civic and cultural life.

Thirty years after first opening their doors, they have outgrown their current site and plan to relocate to the building, once occupied by the library, at 813 Arizona Street, which is of equal historic value. This new building will approximately double their square footage and help them to better serve their six-hundred plus members as well as other members of the community with their rich variety of programs, activities, and services.

The Center has a very active Board of Directors led by President Don Meeks along with Vice-President Betty Smith, Secretary Sharon Lazar, Treasurer Larry Morris, and other members Jack Cummings, Starlene Jarvis, June Lobell, Robert Mayfield, Paul T. Ryan, Tom Shverha, Paul Stouterborough, and Bette Porter and Ede Zinn who are two long-time members and past Board members that serve as Emeritus Members of the Board. I would also like to recognize past President Karl Peddy who has recently past away and Alice Hagan for her devotion to the Senior Center since 1975.

Executive Director Anita Gant, who is celebrating her one year anniversary with the Senior Center, has been a tremendous asset to the center. She and her staff of nine consisting of Program Director Norma King, kitchen staffs consisting of Jane Shafer, Debbie Kittleson, and Steve Reteria, four part-time drivers Gene Crawford, Eric Kramer, Robert Zubrod, and Ted Zubrod, and a custodian Warren Britton, who all work very hard to ensure the seniors of Boulder City are very well cared for. They are looking forward to another plus twenty years of service to the community in their new facility.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Senior Center of Boulder City on the floor of the House. I commend them for their contributions to Boulder City and thank them for her continued service to the seniors of Southern Nevada.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE JUDGE
ALBERT A. PEÑA JR.

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and remember the late Judge Albert A. Peña Jr., who passed away July 4 of this year. He was a public servant who dedicated his professional and personal life to empowering the Mexican-American community and

other minorities in the spheres of education, politics and the labor force.

Albert A. Peña Jr. was born on December 15, 1917, in the city of San Antonio. He attended Tech High School and St. Mary's University prior to serving a commission in the United States Navy. Afterwards, he returned to Texas and obtained a law degree in 1950 from South Texas School of Law in Houston. Shortly thereafter, he joined his family's law firm of Peña, Peña & Peña.

Judge Peña became politically engaged on multiple fronts. In the early stages of his life, his primary concern was advocating for school integration. He fought arduously for this cause by providing pro bono services in numerous suits brought against school districts across South Texas. His efforts resulted in the integration of schools in Lytle, Hondo and Natalia, Texas.

From 1956 to 1972, Judge Peña served as Bexar County Commissioner and, in addition to promoting equity in the field of education, worked tirelessly to protect and defend minority rights. It was during his final tenure as Commissioner when Peña lost a re-election bid in 1972 because he defended the right of Angela Davis, a black Communist Party member and assistant professor at the University of California at Los Angeles, to a fair trial—this at a time when Americans did not approve of those political beliefs. It was a true display of his dedication to safeguarding the liberties of not only Mexican Americans but that of all political and racial minorities.

Judge Peña returned to the world of public service with his appointment as municipal court judge in 1977. As judge, he endorsed a doctrine of equity with the end goal of social justice in mind, a philosophy that guided his actions until he stepped down as presiding municipal court judge in 1992. In addition to his responsibilities as a public official, Judge Peña devoted much of his personal time to the community. He helped found the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, the Mexican American Unity Council, organized the United Automobile Workers of San Antonio, and presided as the State Chairman of the Political Association for Spanish Speaking Organizations.

On behalf of those influenced by Judge Peña's far reaching efforts, I stand today to applaud this great public servant. Judge Peña's labors are testimony to his life long dedication to the Mexican American Community, the City of San Antonio and its citizens. It is unfortunate he is no longer with us and I mourn his passing. Nonetheless, through commemorating his life's work we can ensure his legacy. Therefore, I urge you all to join me in honoring this great leader.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNUAL
SALINE COUNTY FAIR

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, this weekend brings the opening of the 100th Annual Saline County Fair in Harrisburg, Illinois. For the past century, the Saline County Fair has served as a community event unlike any other in this southeastern Illinois county. From its agricul-

tural shows, to the popular floral hall, to the first-rate music and entertainment, to the all-American experience of strolling a traditional carnival midway with a corn dog and a lemon shake-up, the Saline County Fair has brought a spirit of community and fun to the residents of Saline County for 100 years.

I want to congratulate Saline County Fair Manager Dennis Wilson, and the fair staff: Allison Wilson, Connie Harbison, Lori Wilson, Brad Henshaw, Marjorie Dotson, George Henley, Mike Williams, Danny Evans, Dwight Mezo, Chris Harbison, Chris Evans, Jane Richey, Jodi Wilson, Darlene Stafford and Rona Littlefield, as well as all the hard working members of the Saline County 4-H, the University of Illinois Extension, the Town and Country Lions Club, the exhibitors, the contestants, the vendors, the sponsors and the good people of southeastern Illinois who have made the Saline County Fair such a great event over the past century, and I wish them another hundred years of success.

TRIBUTE TO JEAN HULL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of the extreme generosity of one of my constituents. I wish to recognize the kindness of Jean Hull from Marble Rock, Iowa; a member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Recently, Mrs. Hull and her veteran husband purchased an expensive electric chair. It is with sadness that I say Mr. Hull died shortly thereafter. Instead of returning the chair valued at \$6,000, Mrs. Hull kindly and unselfishly donated the chair to the Iowa Veterans Home in honor of her late husband.

This thoughtful and selfless act deserves honoring, and thus I stand today and recognize the act of Mrs. Jean Hull.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THALIA
DONDERO

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend, Thalia Dondero, for her outstanding service to the Southern Nevada community. She will be awarded the Public Education Foundation's Education Hero Award on September 16, 2006.

Thalia moved to Las Vegas, Nevada in 1942, and a few years later met and married her husband Harvey, a Las Vegas High School teacher. The newly married couple relocated to Carson City, Nevada in 1946 when Harvey went to work for the United States Office of Education.

In 1948, Thalia and her husband moved back to Las Vegas and she began her involvement in public education at the Mayfield Grade School. She was also active in the Service League, served as director of the Las Vegas Girl Scouts, and was appointed to the Nevada State Parks Commission.

Thalia was elected to the Clark County Commission in 1974 and served for 20 years,

and was the first female Commissioner. During her tenure at the Commission, she served as Chairperson three times, and made the news when she refused to act as the secretary for the male members.

Her public service continued in 1996, when she was elected to the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents, where she fought to improve the education system in Southern Nevada. Thalia has served one term as Board vice chair and two terms as chair. Currently, she is chair of the Investment Committee and serves on several others.

Thalia continues to be a giving public servant and a true patron of education. She has been appointed to many committees and boards that help serve the community of Southern Nevada. Thalia and her husband have given a great deal to the community and are invaluable residents of Nevada.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Thalia Dondero on the floor of the House. I commend her for her contributions to Southern Nevada and thank her for her continued service to our education system.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE JUDGE
JAMES DEANDA

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, the Nation mourns the passing of WWII veteran and legal giant, retired U.S. District Judge James deAnda, who died on Thursday, September 7, 2006 at the age of 81. His life-long dedication to the protection of Americans has made him an icon in the legal profession and a pioneer of the American civil rights movement.

Born in Houston, Texas to parents who immigrated from Mexico, Judge deAnda was one of the first Mexican American attorneys to argue before the U.S. Supreme Court. In arguing *Hernandez v. Texas*, a companion case to *Brown v. Board of Education*, before the Court in 1954, Judge deAnda earned a major victory for all Americans when the Court voted to overturn an all-white jury's conviction of a Mexican-American defendant. The Supreme Court held that prejudice and discrimination against Mexican Americans in Texas was so pervasive that the conviction had not been determined by a jury of his peers.

In 1968, deAnda again went before the Supreme Court in the case of *Cisneros v. Corpus Christi ISD*. This case led to the desegregation and increased funding of schools in that city. That same year, he co-founded the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, MALDEF, which continues to serve as a legal advocate for the Hispanic community and as a promoter of Hispanic empowerment.

In 1979, after decades of practicing law, Judge deAnda received an appointment from former President Jimmy Carter to serve as a federal judge in the Southern District of Texas; he was subsequently confirmed and became the nation's second Mexican-American federal district judge.

Remarking upon the passing of a MALDEF co-founder, current MALDEF interim President and General Counsel John Trasviña noted, "Judge deAnda was a treasure of immense

proportion to Texas, Mexican-Americans everywhere, and to the United States. In dangerous and difficult times, he and other Mexican American lawyers worked tirelessly to defend our communities' interests. We are all in his debt."

Judge deAnda is indeed an inspiration to the Hispanic and non-Hispanic community, and a positive example to the many who will continue to stand on his shoulders for generations to come.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 85 ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Boy Scout Troop 85 in Moweaqua, Illinois on 50 years of service and success. On Saturday, August 12, 2006, the troop celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Over the past 50 years Boy Scout Troop 85 has produced 69 Eagle Scouts. Among former members are the two doctors in Moweaqua, a career military officer, preacher, lawyer, dentist and many other outstanding members of the workforce.

The scouts of Troop 85 work hard each year and participate in many hours of community service. They annually conduct a food drive for the Moweaqua Food Pantry and assist the Rotary Club in recycling efforts.

It is my pleasure to congratulate Boy Scout Troop 85 on 50 years of success. I wish them all the best in the years to come.

RECOGNITION OF OSAGE AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT MEMBER OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a distinguished citizen and constituent. More specifically, it is my pleasure to announce the nomination of Ms. Claire Schoenborn, of Osage, Iowa, by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 278 for Member of the Year.

Ms. Schoenborn is a vital member of the community in Osage, Iowa. The widow of a World War II veteran, she has repeatedly demonstrated her dedication to volunteerism and community service. Ms. Schoenborn is able to spread joy and brighten lives in many ways.

As a cancer survivor, Ms. Schoenborn is actively involved in the Mitchell County Relay for Life and the Home Trust Helping Hands Team fundraising efforts. She is also a member of the Association for Retarded Citizens, and until recently, an important volunteer in the Bridges Mentoring Program. Perhaps the most valuable part of Ms. Schoenborn's community service services is her dedication to visiting the elderly, the ill and the shut-ins.

And so today I rise to recognize Ms. Claire Schoenborn for her commitment to the betterment of the community and I congratulate Ms.

Schoenborn on her nomination for Member of the Year by American Legion Auxiliary Unit 278. May Ms. Schoenborn continue to serve her community for many years."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PIERRE AND PAM OMDIYAR

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pierre and Pam Omidyar for their innovative philanthropic work.

Pierre Omidyar graduated from Tufts University in 1988, with a degree in Computer Science. After graduating college, Pierre began working as a software engineer for Claris, a subsidiary of the Apple Computer Company. He co-founded Ink Development Corp. which was later acquired by Microsoft. Shortly thereafter, at just 28 years old, Pierre created the website that would become eBay.

Pam Omidyar graduated from Tufts University in 1988, with a degree in Biology. She earned a Masters in Molecular Biology at the University of California, Santa Cruz and much of her early career was spent in laboratory research. Throughout her life, Pam has been devoted to bettering the world around her. She has committed herself to several causes, but is most passionate about helping alleviate chronic illness in children. She is the founder of HopeLab, a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting scientific research that will help improve the quality of life for those who suffer from chronic illnesses.

The intense financial success with eBay prompted Pierre and his wife Pam to find ways to give back to society. After moving to Henderson, Nevada, Pierre and Pam Omidyar converted their family foundation to the Omidyar Network. The Omidyar Network takes a very novel approach to charitable giving. Unlike most organizations of its kind, the Omidyar Network is founded on the principles of microfinance and has the ability to fund nonprofit, for-profit and public policy efforts. The mission of the Omidyar Network is to "enable individual self-empowerment on a global scale," and "to employ business as a tool for social good." As a result of this outstanding network, countless people and organizations have received the tools necessary to cultivate economic growth, self-sufficiency and community enrichment.

Pierre and Pam Omidyar remain actively involved with their alma mater, Tufts University, as well as several other organizations that strive to benefit society. To further accomplish the goals of the Omidyar Network, the Omidyar's recently donated 100 million dollars to Tufts University to launch the Omidyar-Tufts Microfinance Fund.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Pierre and Pam Omidyar for their compassion and sincere desire to improve the world around them. Their innovative approach has made a difference in many lives and I wish them well in their continued endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE POWER OF THE BILLBOARD

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, at times, invention is born from tragic circumstances, and, as the saying goes, out of necessity.

In the summer of 2002, a Kansas man named Roger Kemp experienced a brutally searing loss. His daughter Ali, 19, was attacked and killed at her place of work. She had just finished her freshman year at Kansas State University—with a bright future—and was working at the neighborhood pool in Leawood, Kansas. Her father, Roger, found her body in the pump room at the pool.

Determined to find the person who killed his daughter, Mr. Kemp came up with an idea while driving to work: display "wanted" information on a billboard.

When Roger Kemp described his idea to Lamar Advertising Company, the company declined to take his money, but agreed to help by donating billboard space. "Wanted" billboards featured a composite sketch of a suspect, along with a phone number for anonymous tips to police. It took nearly 2 years, but a tip in response to the billboards helped police apprehend the man (in 2004) accused of killing Ali Kemp.

With encouragement from Roger Kemp, police in the Kansas City area began using billboards to resolve other murder cases. To date, at least 8 murder suspects have been apprehended from tips prompted by "wanted" billboards, donated as a public service.

The success of billboards in Kansas City drew the attention of John Walsh and his TV program, "America's Most Wanted." Since May of 2005, John Walsh has been using donated billboards to help police find fugitives, in conjunction with his TV show, Internet site, and radio program. John Walsh, who knows a great deal about capturing fugitives, says billboards are effective as a crime-fighting tool because they are ever-present and generate quality anonymous tips.

Meanwhile, the concept that Roger Kemp pioneered in Kansas City is spreading across America, to communities large and small.

After a jail break in Yakima County, WA, on November 25, 2005, several inmates were caught quickly. Two who remained on the run were shown on a billboard and were in custody the next month.

In Tennessee, an accused child molester fled in February of this year after cutting off the electronic monitoring device on his ankle. For the first time, Nashville Metro Police used billboards to help find a fugitive; the suspect was arrested on July 19. Two of the five "wanted" billboards in Nashville were innovative digital billboards, featuring a static computer-generated image.

In July, an outdoor advertising company donated billboards in the Phoenix area as part of the effort to help police stop serial crimes; authorities arrested a suspect in the "Baseline Killer" case very recently.

In a sense, "wanted" posters are part of American history, from the days of Jesse James to the "wanted" pictures I saw at the Post Office growing up in Chisholm, MN. The success story of "wanted" billboards serves to

remind us that billboards are a significant medium of communication. We know that billboards promote brands, sell products, and direct motorists to roadway services. But outdoor advertising is also an important forum for non-commercial speech, helping law enforcement and non-profit groups such as the American Red Cross.

We are just a year past the 40th anniversary of the Highway Beautification Act—an appropriate occasion to make note of the evolving contribution of billboards, now adding community service: supporting public safety and security by reviving a proven, effective idea from our past: the “wanted” poster.

HONORING THE ALEXANDRIA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce for its 100 years of outstanding and dedicated service to the community. The Chamber was established for the purpose of making Alexandria, Virginia, a better place to work and live, and, for 100 years, it has done just that.

In its early years, the Chamber of Commerce fought for the rights and well-being of farmers, ranchers, and the poor, and helped raise money for the Red Cross to assist in the inoculation of residents against typhoid and small pox.

In 1918, the Chamber campaigned to change the city's form of government from a trustee and aldermen system to one run by elected officials and a professional city manager, and in just 3 years, it was successful in obtaining the change. The Chamber has also worked to develop strong leaders in Alexandria, most recently with its Leadership Alexandria program that provides upcoming community leaders with a thorough understanding of the city and the most critical challenges it faces.

Over the years, the Chamber of Commerce has worked tirelessly to promote the city's education system. In 1914, the Chamber successfully petitioned for a new high school. Through its Alexandria Education Partnership, many businesses and professional groups in the city support a wide variety of activities that assist the city's schools and students. And since 1966, the Chamber has sponsored an annual Summer Economic Institute that has provided Alexandria teenagers with a unique internship experiences in the business and financial sectors.

I am proud of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce and the significant contributions it has made over the last 100 years to making the City of Alexandria the wonderful place it is to both work and live. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Chamber on its anniversary and to wish the organization and its members all the best in their future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like today to congratulate the trustees, faculty and students of the San Bernardino Valley College as they celebrate the 80th anniversary of the founding of this vital education provider in my home town of San Bernardino, California.

Beginning with 140 students at two high school campuses in 1926, San Bernardino Valley Community College has grown into a district with two modern campuses and thousands of students. It has served more than 700,000 students over the past 80 years.

Valley College, as it was known when I was growing up in San Bernardino, has long been a pillar of the local educational community—and for some time was our only public institution for higher education. We now have California State University San Bernardino and nearby University of California, Riverside. But because of its range of programs, Valley College is still the destination of choice for many students.

The college's low cost and dedication to helping students of all economic backgrounds has made Valley College's student body one of the most diverse in the Nation. Its graduates go on to complete four-year degrees at top universities, and provide the skilled labor for the area's rapidly growing economy.

I have been proud over the years to have supported Valley College's efforts to improve its campus and programs. With the help of earthquake mitigation funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the college has completely remade its central facilities, tearing down main buildings and replacing them with a new library, Health and Human Sciences Building, administration and student services building and the newest addition—a 37,000-square-foot Campus Center. A new art building with a modern gallery is set to open next year.

Valley College is also home to one of the few broadcast television operations in the Inland Empire—its public-television station KVCR. I have been pleased to work with the district to secure funding to upgrade these facilities to meet new high-definition requirements. This station and its related public radio station provide tremendous access to the airwaves for the diverse student body, which makes this a top asset for the community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in offering congratulations to the trustees, administration, faculty and students of this important institution, and offering our best wishes for the future success of the district and those who make it such a success.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO NEVADA HIGHWAY PATROL OFFICER BOBBY KINTZEL

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nevada Highway Patrol Officer Bobby Kintzel, whose story of perseverance and discipline should serve as an example to us all.

On April 21, 2001, Bobby Kintzel, a Gulf War U.S. Marine veteran, was laying a tire strip on U.S. Highway 95 to puncture the tires of a stolen sports utility vehicle. The driver avoided the strip and purposely targeted Bobby, leaving him maimed and tragically killing a woman. Bobby suffered numerous injuries and was immediately air-lifted to University Medical Center. He stayed in the hospital for a year and underwent various surgeries. The weekly rehabilitation exercises became a personal test for Bobby, and all the while he kept in mind three words: adapt, improvise, overcome, a personal motto Bobby learned while in the Marine Corp. After he was released from the hospital, he lived in a rehabilitation facility and underwent occupational therapy and learned computer software. These days, the 35-year-old is still battling to recover, but he has come a long way.

Still employed by the Nevada Highway Patrol, he works in an office, using the skills he learned during his occupational therapy. He also gives back to the community that gave him an outpouring of support immediately following his injuries. Bobby has spoken at high school assemblies, at Nellis Air Force Base, at a juvenile detention center and, on every third Wednesday of the month at the Clark County Library, to those who have DUI convictions. Bobby also mentors a Las Vegas hockey team made up of 15- to 18-year-olds.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Nevada Highway Patrol Officer Bobby Kintzel. His long and challenging recovery is truly a story of discipline and determination. I wish him the best with his continuing recovery.

HONORING MR. W.F. “BILL”
WELLMAN

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to honor my good friend Mr. W.F. “Bill” Wellman for his illustrious career and innumerable contributions to his native Northwest Indiana community. With a life of such diverse experiences and a career that has taken countless turns, it is hard to sum up the life of Bill Wellman without the word “entertainer.” I am proud to call Bill a friend, and I am pleased to have the opportunity to congratulate him on his new autobiography, “It's Made to Sell—Not to Drink!” I am truly impressed by this self-published work that covers a fascinating life of eight decades.

Bill was born in LaPorte, Indiana, and his career has taken him around the world. He grew up learning the service industry from his father, Guy Wellman, Sr., who opened a bar

in Valparaiso, Indiana after earning a worthy reputation during Prohibition. Bill tended bar and learned many life lessons from his father and their patrons. In fact, his book's title, "It's Made to Sell—Not to Drink!" is in reference to the libations served at "The Club." As a young man, Bill joined the United States Marine Corps, where he served during World War II. Both his Hoosier boyhood and military exploits are featured prominently in his autobiography as important formative influences on his life.

Fortunately, Bill's strong Hoosier roots brought him back, where his career has flourished in the hospitality industry. After World War II, Bill set his sights on the Valparaiso area, where he helped establish The Corral bar in 1948 and Wellman's Restaurant in 1958, to which he later added a bowling alley. Subsequently, his stewardship over the Holiday Inn in Valparaiso led to an expansion that included a restaurant and outdoor theater, which came to be known as the Bridge VU. Here, Bill hosted such stars as Dolly Parton, The Oak Ridge Boys, Victor Borge, Duke Ellington, and many others. It was this venture that inspired his signature project, the 3,400 seat Star Plaza Theater, which remains today as a prominent entertainment complex and tourist attraction in Merrillville, Indiana.

While Bill's numerous business ventures have provided quality entertainment, award-winning food, and many jobs for those in Northwest Indiana, he has gone further than most to make the region a more attractive destination. Bill is one of the original founders and a Past President of the Northwest Indiana Tourism Council, and is a Past President of the Lake County Convention and Visitors Bureau. In 1986, he was named the Indiana Ambassador of Tourism, and for many years he served as President of the Indiana Travel and Tourism Association. It is through Bill's service to these and other organizations that Northwest Indiana truly benefits from his wealth of knowledge.

At age 82, Bill maintains a busy schedule, giving back to his community through various local organizations and holding a demanding post as Senior Vice President of Communications for Whiteco Industries, where he has worked since 1976. In fact, his early years at Whiteco were devoted to design and development of the Star Plaza Theater, which his firm now owns and manages. A testament to his work ethic and passion, Bill has shrugged off retirement and relishes each day at work. However, Bill's most enjoyable time is spent with his wife, three children, and five grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Wellman's eye for entertainment has added a spark to the lives of thousands of Hoosiers and visitors from around the United States. His commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of the First Congressional District of Indiana should be recognized and celebrated. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending my friend, Bill Wellman, for his lifetime of enthusiastic service to Northwest Indiana.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HEALTH CARE PRICE TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2006

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, we currently have a health care system that is badly in need of reform. However, in the tangled mess of medical bureaucracy, no one has a clear picture of the problem. Physicians and other providers don't get paid enough, patients pay too much, many people don't get any care at all, and everyone claims that someone else needs to change. Before we start changing things, though, it seems prudent to understand the problem fully. Today, I have introduced legislation with that goal in mind. This is a first step toward true price transparency in the health care market.

The Health Care Price Transparency Act of 2006 is a long-term solution to runaway medical costs. This bill calls upon the States to establish and maintain laws requiring disclosure of information on hospital charges, to make such information available to the public, and to provide individuals with information about estimated out-of-pocket costs for health care services. This means that State law will require health insurance providers to give patients an actual dollar estimate of what the patient must pay for health care items and services within a specified period of time.

Additionally, the bill calls for research on: (1) The types of cost information that individuals find useful in making decisions regarding healthcare; (2) how this useful information varies according to an individual's health insurance coverage, and if so, by what type of coverage they have; and (3) ways that this information may be distributed in a timely and simple manner.

These are simple but important provisions. The current health insurance system has insulated people from the actual cost of the medical care they receive. By pulling back the curtain on opaque areas of the health care market, over time, this legislation will lead to the development of a more rational pricing structure from the consumer's perspective. Once we understand the actual cost, then we can begin to make effective changes leading to fair physician reimbursement, appropriate patient billing, and better medical services.

In August, President Bush issued an executive order calling for increased transparency within the Federal Government's health care agencies. This legislation is an extension of that executive order, giving States the tools to become part of a necessary solution for health care consumers.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 2965

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, for purposes of floor consideration of H.R. 2965, the "Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act of 2006," the Committee on

the Judiciary sets forth, with respect to the bill H.R. 2965, the following estimate and comparison prepared by the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. This cost estimate is in addition to the one set forth by the Committee in H. Rept. 109–591.

H.R. 2965—Federal Prison Industries Competition in Contracting Act of 2006

Summary: H.R. 2965 would amend the laws that authorize the Federal Prison Industries (FPI), a government-owned corporation that produces goods and services for the federal government with prison labor. Under current law, most federal agencies are required to award purchase contracts to FPI on a non-competitive basis if FPI has products available to meet the agencies' needs and the cost would not exceed current market prices. Such products include office furniture, textiles, vehicle tags, and fiber optics. Under H.R. 2965, this requirement to award non-competitive purchase contracts to FPI would be phased out over the 2007–2012 period.

The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$357 million over the 2007–2011 period for new FPI programs. In addition, CBO expects that additional amounts would be needed to pay for security costs at federal prisons. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2965 would cost \$445 million over the 2007–2011 period. Federal agencies might be able to purchase some goods and services less expensively because of the added contracting flexibility the bill would provide, but CBO has no basis for estimating such savings. The bill would have no significant effect on net direct spending by FPI, CBO estimates.

H.R. 2965 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA), but CBO estimates that the cost to state, local, and tribal governments for complying with this mandate would be insignificant and well below the threshold established in the act (\$64 million in 2006, adjusted for inflation). The bill contains no new private-sector mandates.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 2965 is shown in the following table. The cost of this legislation falls within budget function 750 (administration of justice).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars—				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Enhanced Vocational Assessment and Training:					
Authorization Level	0	75	75	75	75
Estimated Outlays	0	66	75	75	75
FPI Public Service and Donation Programs:					
Authorization Level	0	12	12	12	12
Estimated Outlays	0	12	12	12	12
Cognitive Abilities Assessment Demonstration Program:					
Authorization Level	0	3	3	3	0
Estimated Outlays	0	2	3	3	1
Additional Security Costs:					
Estimated Authorization Level ..	4	5	21	32	38
Estimated Outlays	4	5	20	31	37
Total Changes:					
Estimated Authorization Level ..	4	95	111	122	125
Estimated Outlays	4	85	110	121	125

Basis of estimate: CBO assumes that the proposed legislation will be enacted near the beginning of fiscal year 2007 and that the authorized amounts will be appropriated for each year. We estimate that implementing the programs specifically authorized by H.R. 2965 would cost \$348 million over the 2007–2011 period. In addition, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 2965 would cost the Bureau of Prisons \$4 million in 2007 and nearly \$100 million over the 2007–2011 period for additional security officers to supervise inmates

who would no longer be working as a result of implementing this legislation.

Enhanced in-prison vocational assessment and training

The bill would authorize the Attorney General to establish a Federal Enhanced In-Prison Vocational Assessment and Training Program in federal institutions and would authorize the appropriation of \$75 million a year beginning in fiscal year 2008 for this program. Assuming the appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that the enhanced program would cost \$291 million over the 2007–2011 period.

FPI public service and donation programs

The legislation would authorize the Attorney General to establish a new FPI program in federal prisons that, subject to appropriation of the necessary amounts, would produce goods to be donated to nonprofit organizations instead of being offered for purchase to the federal government. In addition, FPI would be authorized to contract with nonprofit organizations and certain public entities for the use of inmate labor to provide charitable services. The bill would authorize the appropriation of \$12 million for fiscal year 2008 and \$48 million over the 2008–2011 period for these programs.

Cognitive Abilities Assessment Demonstration program

Section 10 would authorize the appropriation of \$3 million for each of the fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010 for the Bureau of Prisons to establish a Cognitive Abilities Assessment Demonstration Program in 12 federal institutions. The project would assess inmates' cognitive abilities and perceptual skills to determine what rehabilitative activities would be most successful. CBO estimates that this provision would cost \$9 million over the 2007–2011 period, assuming the appropriation of the authorized amounts.

Additional security costs

H.R. 2965 would phase out the requirement for federal agencies to purchase products and services from FPI. During the next five years, CBO expects that FPI's total sales to the federal government would decrease by about 25 percent, assuming that FPI would succeed in selling some products and services under competitive bidding procurements.

The bill would limit FPI's sales to federal agencies to 20 percent of the governmentwide purchases of the kinds of products FPI produces and 5 percent of the kinds of services it provides—regardless of whether the government purchase contracts are awarded on a noncompetitive or competitive basis. The legislation, however, would authorize FPI's board of directors to allow FPI a greater market share if an agency has requested additional products or services or if necessary to sustain inmates' work levels. CBO expects that few inmates would lose work over the next five years as a result of this restriction on FPI's market share because we expect that the board would try to maintain the number of inmates working for FPI.

Because of the reduction in federal sales, CBO expects that there would be a corresponding reduction in the number of inmates employed by FPI. Currently, no funds appropriated to the Bureau of Prisons are used to provide security to prisoners participating in FPI programs during work hours because this security is provided by FPI. Based on information from the Department of Justice about the number of prison security personnel needed to guard the prison population, CBO estimates that an additional 50 security officers would be needed in fiscal year 2007 to secure prisoners no longer working for FPI; that number would grow to more than 400 by 2011. CBO estimates that providing additional security officers would

cost \$4 million in 2007 and nearly \$100 million over the five-year period.

Changes in FPI's direct spending

CBO estimates that, under the bill, total receipts collected by FPI would decrease over the 5-year period as agencies procure fewer FPI products. But that reduction in collections would be offset by a reduction in the cost to produce such products. Therefore, CBO estimates that enacting this legislation would result in no significant net change in direct spending for each year.

Impact on other Federal agencies

The bill would phase out current requirements that federal agencies purchase certain products and services from FPI on a non-competitive basis. That change might enable agencies to acquire some products or services less expensively through a competitive procurement process. In recent years, agencies have purchased \$800 million to \$900 million worth of goods and services from FPI. CBO has no basis for estimating the savings that might result, but they would likely be a small percentage of the total sales.

Estimated impact on State, local, and Tribal Governments: H.R. 2095 contains an intergovernmental mandate as defined in UMRA because it would require most work programs in state and local prisons that provide services in interstate commerce to obtain federal certification in order to continue operating after September 2010 or after the end of their current contract. CBO estimates that the administrative cost to obtain this certification would be insignificant and well below the threshold established in UMRA (\$64 million in 2007, adjusted annually for inflation). This bill would impose no other significant costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated impact on the private sector: This bill contains no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Daniel Hoople and Gregory Waring; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Melissa Merrell; and Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach.

Estimate approved by: Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY CARMEN
DECARLO

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to send birthday wishes from the Congress to Carmen deCarlo on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Daughter of Italian immigrants Angelo and Delores, wife of her childhood sweetheart Mario, mother to Mark and Manon and adored grandmother of Alex, Jessica and Nicky, Carmen was born in New York City 90 years ago.

Her parents worked tirelessly in their grocery business to bring up Carmen with good values and in a loving environment. Carmen and her husband were always very much dedicated to making the plight of the less fortunate and disenfranchised better. She championed the rights of the poor and strove to create an even playing field.

As President of the PTA, Carmen started the first "free milk program" for the children of families that could not afford to provide this very basic necessity of life. Carmen has volunteered at the local schools and considers her-

self a surrogate grandmother to her little first and second grade students. Carmen has exemplified a love for her family and friends and must be commended for her life-long dedication to helping others.

I offer my best wishes for continued good health and good fortune for Carmen and her family and for many more gatherings such as the one to celebrate her birthday at the gazebo on Moosehead Lake.

THE FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE IMPROVEMENT AND
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2006

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. HARMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is critical that we bring the President's so-called Terrorist Surveillance Program within legal boundaries set by Congress.

In the House, a number of bills have been introduced, including H.R. 5371, the LISTEN Act.

Today, I am introducing the companion bill to S. 3877, sponsored by my Senator, DIANNE FEINSTEIN of California, and Senate Judiciary Chairman ARLEN SPECTER of Pennsylvania.

Their bill is pending on the Senate floor and I believe it is important for our colleagues to be able to study it.

Like H.R. 5371, the Feinstein-Specter bill reaffirms the exclusivity of FISA and provides additional resources to obtain emergency FISA warrants for tracking terror suspects. But their bill also amends FISA to lengthen the period for securing emergency warrants and to designate additional officials to approve surveillance for a short period in advance of the issuance of a warrant.

These are dangerous times but security and liberty are not a zero-sum game. We will be measured in part by whether we uphold the core values that keep our Nation strong.

HONORING CORPORAL DAVID
GARDNER WEIMORTZ

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a true American Hero. On August 26, 2006, Corporal David Gardner Weimortz died fighting for our country in Iraq. Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, David Weimortz enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. In the Corps, Corporal Weimortz proudly served America and ultimately made the greatest sacrifice.

Corporal Weimortz is survived by his mother, Fran A. Fellers of Irmo; father, Joseph T. Weimortz of Crestview, Fla.; sister, Kelly A. Weimortz of Columbia; grandmother, Helen F. Asbill of Aiken; aunt and uncle, Pam and Clint Parker of Greenville; and great-aunt, Alice Lee Foster of Aiken.

Corporal Weimortz was lovingly eulogized in the September 7, 2006, issue of The New Irma News by Deloris Mungo. The text of her article follows:

"This world is a better place for each of us today thanks to the life of Corporal David Gardner Weimortz of Irmo, South Carolina. David was a fearless Marine, but he was first a son to Mrs. Fran Fellers and Mr. Terry Weimortz, a brother to Miss Kelly Weimortz and a friend to what seems like everyone he ever came into contact with.

"This particular remembrance of David is dedicated to his Mother, Fran Weimortz Fellers, my dear friend. These past few weeks have been the worst of times for any mother but the outpouring of love from her friends and family have held her up and let her loved ones know what a legacy of life David left. David was certainly a man's man but he was definitely a Mother's son. The choices were clearly his own and he was very proud of them and of what a difference he was making in this world by helping secure freedom for the Iraqis. David, by all accounts, always did it his way, no matter what age he was or what he was doing. Serving his third deployment to Iraq, he died in a roadside bomb attack on August 26th in the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment Division at Camp Lejeune, N.C. He was a corporal, even though he was a college graduate. He wanted to jump right in and not take the time to go to Officer's Candidate School—he felt that he was needed right then. Trappings and titles were not important to him, but making a difference was. Once his frustrated mother asked him why he was so intent on being a Marine when there were so many people in our own country that just don't care that these soldiers are out there for them—why wouldn't he please just stay home? David replied 'Mom, I'm out there for the GOOD people too, and that also means that I am out there for YOU.' David felt like the hope in Iraq is in the children. He said 'The kids are really what make it worthwhile. It is our goal, our desire, they come in as well adjusted, well educated persons and want to have a democratic society. Hopefully, that will be infectious and spread.' David was proud to say 'I got everything I wanted out of the Marine Corps. I have no regrets.' Very sadly, David's candle of life was extinguished far too soon; but the light that he shined on the people he loved in his path will always burn brightly.

"David was always playing sports as a child, and his first word was 'ball.' David was a graduate of Dutch Fork High School, and graduated as a golf standout. He then went to the University of South Carolina where he graduated as a history major in 2000. After college, he worked for a publisher in Raleigh and modeled products at NASCAR races before enlisting. He joined the Marines in March 2003 and graduated from boot camp at Parris Island. His next step was to enter Law School when he returned from military duty.

"Out of the hundreds of people who have shared thoughts and memories of David, the one constant was his sense of humor and ability to entertain people and make them laugh! This was the core of his personality. No one was untouched by his wit and charm, and his ability to make people smile and laugh was the ONE thing that EVERYONE remembered. There was never a room that he did not fill with his contagious personality when he entered, and never a person who did not leave with laughter after being around him for any time at all. His exterior was huge, 6'5 and 225 pounds of all man and muscle and mass—but his interior was always thinking of the other person and what he could do to make him or her smile or make their life better. This gentle warrior of a man visited two sisters (friends of his in California) for a few days; and after he left, he had written thank you notes to each of them including one to Simon the Cat thanking him for sharing his bed (aka the floor!).

All of his local teachers have shared that their classrooms would not have been nearly as 'exciting' without the wit, charm and amazing harmless but funny antics of this brilliant young man.

"The Marines have lost an unbelievable soldier, Todd Gayle, Jason Flynn, and Miles Solomon have lost their best friend, Fran has lost her most precious son, Kelly has lost her beloved brother who had promised to walk her down the aisle and give her away whenever she found the right man ('Muff' and 'Bubby' as they referred to themselves were as close as brother and sister could be), Helen Asbill of Aiken has lost her grandson and Pam and Clint Parker of Greenville, SC, have lost their treasured nephew. The people of our community have lost one of the finest young men ever placed on the earth. What we have gained is the discovery of this very wonderful young man will always be with us. He has permeated out hearts and souls and we have learned so very much from him. There are already in the works many well deserved memorials being made in his name with USC, National Bank of SC and Project Pet. If we could all be as lucky as to know ourselves as well as David knew himself, and to set an example of quality for life and love as he did. His passion for his mother and his sister were unsurpassed, and he wanted to 'take care of them' . . . always.

"We can only take so much sadness; so dance, sing, laugh—celebrate the life that was before the death and what it gave you and what it will continue to give you because you will always have him in your heart. 'So it's the laughter we will remember—the way he was.' David, you will be forever in our lives and hearts."

PRAISING GALVESTON COLLEGE'S STRATEGIC PLAN

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, Galveston College, which is in my district, is in the fifth year of its strategic plan to better help its students meet the challenges of the 21st century by transforming itself into a learning college. The learning college is an exciting new model designed to ensure community colleges respond quickly to internal and external challenges and think creatively about the future.

The learning college rests on collaboration between students who are willing and able to take primary responsibility for making their own choices and faculty and staff who are able to empower students with the tools students need to make sound choices. Galveston College helps students develop the attitudes and behaviors necessary for academic and professional success. Galveston College also challenges its employees to work in an environment based on teamwork and a culture open to change and learning.

Fundamental to the learning college experience is the creation of different options for learning, including the traditional classroom, laboratory and clinical settings, and Internet coursework. A learning college also assists students in forming and participating in collaborative learning activities.

Since adopting the learning college model, Galveston College has made an increased variety of coursework and programs available to students. Many of these programs involve cre-

ative uses of technology that enhance the learning process. For example, thanks to collaboration with the Virtual College of Texas, Galveston College has made available a large selection of Internet coursework to its students.

Galveston College has also implemented several initiatives to improve its developmental programs and student services technology. These initiatives include Achieving the Dream funded by the Lumina Foundation; a title V Grant, Developing Hispanic Serving Institutions Program; and the Quality Enhancement Plan. These initiatives will allow the college to implement best practices in student retention.

In order to better ensure that it is preparing students for good jobs in the Galveston area, Galveston College has assigned an account executive to work with the Galveston Chamber of Commerce, the Galveston Economic Development Partnership, and the Galveston city government to ensure Galveston College's course offerings match the needs of the community.

Galveston College's efforts are showing results. On May 18, 2006, CCBenefits, Inc. completed a socioeconomic impact study of Galveston College. The report details how Galveston College benefits the students and the community. According to the study, a student at Galveston College will see an increase of \$6.62 in lifetime earnings for each dollar spent at Galveston College. The study also estimated that Galveston's economy is \$107.3 million stronger due to the actions of Galveston College.

This year, Galveston College had the largest graduating class in its history. With its commitment to fashioning a 21st century learning college that provides students with a first class education designed to help them meet today's challenges, I have no doubt Galveston College will remain an asset to the Galveston community and a model for other community colleges to follow.

HONORING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DICK TRACY COMIC STRIP

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the world's most famous detective, Dick Tracy, on his 75th Anniversary, and to recognize that my home state of Illinois has declared October 4, 2006, "Dick Tracy Day."

For the past 75 years, the plainclothes detective, Dick Tracy, has graced the comic pages throughout the country. As a native Chicagoan, I have never known a world—or a Chicago Tribune—without Dick Tracy. As a child, I remember wishing I had a two-way wrist radio and wondering when Tracy and Tess Trueheart would tie-the-knot.

Not only has the comic strip provided daily entertainment for countless Americans, it also loyally has served our nation—in promoting the FBI's "Most Wanted" and "Crimestoppers" campaigns, and during World War II, when it educated Americans about the U.S. war effort.

Of course, the imaginative man behind the detective was none other than Chester Gould. His passion for crime prevention elevated the

Dick Tracy comic strip beyond pure entertainment to a model for public service. When Chester Gould put down his pencil in 1977, after more than 40 years, he was fortunate to have the very talented and capable Dick Locher to carry on his beloved comic strip. As a fellow resident of Illinois' 13th district, I am delighted to represent Dick Locher here in this body.

I am pleased to recognize Dick Tracy, an icon of American culture, Chester Gould, the creative genius who brought him to life, and Dick Locher, the great talent who both honors and extends Dick Tracy's legacy. Once again, congratulations, Dick Tracy, on your diamond anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO MARY A. BAIN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary A. Bain, who recently passed away. Longtime Chief of Staff to Congressman Sidney Yates, Mary was beloved by many of us on Capitol Hill, including me.

It is hard to believe that Mary began her political career in Franklin Delano Roosevelt's Administration—as the Illinois director of the National Youth Administration. She was a dedicated public servant for many years to come, particularly devoted to our dear colleague and my colleague on the Appropriations Committee, Congressman Yates, whom she served in many capacities for almost 50 years. I am sure if Congressman Yates was here with us, he would say it was almost as if they served as co-Members.

As I said when she received the Heritage Defender Award, "Not only did Mary Bain save national treasures, she is a national treasure." She applied her considerable political savvy to preserving America's cultural heritage, and she was always a stalwart for the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Gallery, the Smithsonian Institution, among many others.

Mary Bain helped to break the marble ceiling for all women—she was one of the first women to serve as a Congressional Chief of Staff. She talked about how much she looked forward to seeing a woman become our nation's first Speaker. I am hopeful that next January we can make that dream a reality—and I know that when we do, Mary will be smiling down on us.

When Mary retired in 1998, she was the last of the New Dealers in government, having remained committed to the principles of Roosevelt her entire life. And though she can never be replaced on Capitol Hill, we continue her work to expand opportunity and prosperity to all Americans.

As we pay tribute to Mary, we remember the many people who loved her—particularly her husband Herbert, who preceded her in death, and her daughter Mary Ellen and two grandsons. I hope they can draw comfort from the fact that so many are praying for them and grieving Mary's loss with them.

IN SUPPORT OF A RESOLUTION CALLING ON IRAN TO IMMEDIATELY FULFILL ITS NUCLEAR NONPROLIFERATION OBLIGATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a resolution calling on Iran to immediately fulfill its nuclear nonproliferation obligations.

On August 31, 2006, Iran rejected United Nations Security Council Resolution 1696 requesting that Iran suspend all uranium enrichment and reprocessing activities, including research and development within 1 month or face economic and diplomatic sanctions.

In a report the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, released that same day, the agency discussed proof of Iran's continued pursuit of its nuclear program, as well as evidence that Iran might be pursuing alternative nuclear activities in secret.

For decades, Iran has been deceiving the IAEA and the international community about the extent and the purpose of its nuclear program. Iran has consistently failed to provide sufficient information about its nuclear capabilities and has failed to fully cooperate with international nuclear nonproliferation laws. Time and time again, Iran has scorned diplomatic and economic propositions offered by the global community.

The United States cannot afford to stand aside now and allow Iran to continue with their pattern of nuclear defiance.

This is why I am calling for this resolution, which calls for the full implementation of Security Council Resolution 1696; asking the Security Council members to move forward quickly and apply appropriate multilateral sanctions against Iran. This resolution also calls upon President Bush to implement and exhaust every diplomatic and economic sanction at his disposal to prevent a nuclear Iran.

Iran's strategic plan is blatantly obvious: With one hand it is stringing along diplomatic negotiations with the world's powers, while the hand behind its back continues to pursue nuclear activities. In doing so, Iran is successfully driving a wedge between the international communities. Iran remains defiant banking on the assumption that the United Nations Security Council will be unwilling to agree on imposing sanctions on their country.

Iran's pattern of insubordination is extremely troubling to me. Even more troubling to me is the reluctance of the international community to unite together and take immediate action against the threat posed by a nuclear Iran.

This past weekend, European Union, EU, leaders met with an Iranian negotiator in an attempt to persuade Iran to suspend its nuclear enrichment. And just last week, top diplomats from the EU—3: Britain, France, and Germany, as well as the United States, met in Berlin for the first time since Iran refused to accept the United Nations deadline to halt its uranium production.

But while these meetings signal progress, they will accomplish nothing if all of the Security Council members do not completely implement resolution 1696. Russia, China, Britain,

France and Germany, and the United States voted for this resolution; now they must champion what it calls for.

The need to implement multilateral sanctions and for the United States to apply all diplomatic and economic sanctions at its disposal against Iran is growing steadily.

Over the years we have seen how Iran's defiance against the international community has galvanized extremist groups in Iraq, Gaza and Lebanon. In the most recent example of the cross-border attack by the terrorist group Hezbollah against Israel—largely financed and supported by the Iranian Government—we saw the devastating impact that Iranian assistance to militia groups can generate.

On the day following the 5-year commemoration of 9/11, our Nation is still vulnerable to terrorist attacks. Allowing a primary sponsor of international terror to advance their nuclear capabilities, burgeons the terrorist threat posed to our Nation.

Iran poses a huge and existential danger to our democratic ally Israel as well. For years, President Ahmadinejad has spewed anti-Semitic rhetoric and has denied the Holocaust's existence. Iran's nuclear intentions are no secret. President Ahmadinejad is on a national crusade of hatred and ultimate destruction against Israel and the United States.

Moreover, in one of the most unstable regions in the world, Iran continues to remain a highly destabilizing force. A nuclear Iran only intensifies the threat Iran currently poses to the security of the entire global community.

Mr. Speaker, let us take a moment to consider the consequences of allowing a repressive anti-Semitic regime with ideological goals, extensive oil production capabilities, and an active sponsor of global terrorism, to possess nuclear powers. The possibilities are endless and progressively more dangerous. A nuclear arms race in the Middle East could break out, or Iran could garner support elsewhere in the Muslim world and successfully advance their radical ideological movement against the West.

Many in the international community had hoped that Iran would realize that advancing their nuclear program makes their country less safe, not more. But Iran made its choice. It has not only failed to meet the demands of the United Nations Resolution 1696, it has defied the resolution and the international community. And now it must pay the price of sanctions.

I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me and co-sponsor this resolution to request that the Security Council members and the United States reply with an immediate and meaningful response to Iran's longstanding pattern of nuclear noncompliance.

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS EDWARD AUSTIN KOTH

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, sorrowfully I rise before you today to honor the second sailor from Maryland who died serving his country in the War on Terror. I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the life and memory of an altruistic serviceman from

Towson, Maryland, Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Austin Koth.

Unfortunately, over 2,500 United States servicemen and women have died in the War in Iraq. Each time a servicemember dies, we are reminded of our gratitude for the Armed Services; these people have built a career around protecting American citizens. The drive and conviction Petty Officer Koth and his peers show each day is commendable.

Petty Officer Koth died as a result of an explosive weapon at Camp Victoria, Iraq detonating. He was assigned to the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit 8, serving with Multinational Corps Iraq in Baghdad at the time of his death. He was on his second tour of Iraq with only 3 weeks remaining.

Petty Officer Koth is remembered as a devoted sailor who found extreme pride in saving the lives of innocent people. He protected his fellow servicemen and women, and Iraqi civilians by removing bombs from heavily populated marketplaces. He frequently called or wrote home saying he had neutralized a number of bombs while he was a part of the Army Rangers Unit that drove through Baghdad in Humvees and Bradley fighting vehicles in search of such explosives.

Serving the United States of America was in Petty Officer Koth's blood. Both of his grandfathers and four of his uncles served in the United States Navy. This magnanimous serviceman was ambitious and confident from the time he was young. As the youngest of four children, he was well-known for his courage. This notable trait propelled him toward his future in the Armed Services.

While enrolled in Loyola College, Koth joined the diving team where he excelled greatly. Upon obtaining his degree in information systems, Petty Officer Koth went on to train with dolphins at the Naval School of Explosive Ordnance Disposal in Florida. There his notability as a fearless diver taught him how to take apart underwater mines, a task that prepared him for his naval career of dismantling explosives.

His passion for life made him a champion in the eyes of fellow service men and the women

and Iraqi people. Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me today to celebrate the life of Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Austin Koth. His selfless acts of compassion make him truly worthy of great recognition. He will forever be remembered as a Maryland hero.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE
NA'OPE AS A 2006 NATIONAL
HERITAGE FELLOW

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 12, 2006

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate Kumu Hula George Lanakilakeikiahiali'i Na'ope, known in our Hawai'i as "Uncle George," on being chosen as a 2006 National Heritage Fellow, our Nation's highest honor in the folk and traditional arts.

Each year the National Endowment for the Arts awards the coveted National Heritage Fellowships to a select few masters of folk and traditional arts who demonstrate outstanding lifetime achievement and artistic merit. Fellows are carefully selected from among hundreds of nominees based on authenticity, excellence, and significance within a particular artistic tradition. There is no one more deserving than Hawai'i's own George Na'ope to receive this high honor for his contributions to the art of traditional hula and chant.

George was born on February 25, 1928, in Kalihi, O'ahu and grew up in Hilo on the island of Hawai'i. He began his hula studies at the age of 3 and has dedicated his entire life to this ancient art form. Na'ope's first hula lessons were under the tutelage of Mary Kanaile Fujii, the mother of Edith Kanaka'ole, and his studies were directed by his great-grandmother Mary Malia Pukaokalani Na'ope and his grandfather Harry Na'ope. He further studied under Joseph Ila'laole and opened up the George Na'ope Hula School in Honolulu after his graduation from Hilo High School.

George would later go on to a successful career traveling throughout the United States with the Ray Kinney Royal Hawaiian Review, performing regularly at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas. He still found time to obtain his PhD from the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music and to teach hula in underserved communities.

But his achievements did not stop there. George also served our country for 2 years in frontline combat during the Korean conflict with the X Corps of the American Corps of Engineers. After his return to Hawai'i he was appointed "Promoter of Activities" with the County of Hawaii. While serving in this capacity, he was recognized in 1960 by the Governor of the State of Hawai'i and Hawai'i State Legislature with the designation "Living Golden Treasure".

George Na'ope was a prime catalyst for renewed interest in and study of traditional hula, chants, music, and other aspects of Hawaiian culture. It was also during this time and with George's patronage that the world-famous Merrie Monarch Festival was founded in 1962. This festival honors King David Kalakaua who was nicknamed the "Merrie Monarch" because of his support for music and the arts and his encouragement of the revival of Native Hawaiian traditions like hula and mele. Forty-four years later, the festival is still going strong and has become a must-see for Hawai'i residents and visitors.

A lifelong teacher, George Na'ope has taught the dance of Hawai'i around the world and performed for dignitaries and world leaders. His lasting timeless contributions and influence, through the many students he inspired, as well as the many extraordinary contributions he made to the traditional arts heritage of Hawai'i and our Nation, are truly exceptional and worthy of national recognition.

I close by saying to Uncle George: congratulations on receiving the National Heritage Fellowship and mahalo for all you have done for our Hawai'i and our Nation's cultural heritage. Aloha!